



The Army's "retiring" canvas (cotton duck) tents, tarps and vehicle covers. Since the Revolutionary War, soldiers have depended on canvas to shelter them and their gear. But now the Army's replacing it with 21st century vinyl-coated polyester.

What does that mean for those of you still holding canvas? For one thing, it means you won't find canvas replacement parts in the Army supply system: no canvas tent sections to replace damaged ones, no sheets of canvas for patching tears.

For another thing, it means direct support will no longer repair canvas. You are now responsible for maintaining it.

Canvas PM

Until you get polyester replacements, make your canvas tents, tarps and vehicle covers last by practicing good PM. That includes cleaning, drying, storing, sewing and patching.



Here are a few sources to keep you covered:

- **FM 10-16, General Fabric Repair**
<http://atiam.train.army.mil/portal/atia/adlsc/view/publc/296904-1/fm/10-16/toc.htm>
- **PS 555 (Feb 99), pages 52-54, general tent PM**
<https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissues/PS-555.pdf>
- **PS 521 (Apr 96), pages 52-53, PM for cover on mobile kitchen trailer**
<https://www.logsa.army.mil/WEB-PAGE/1996/521/521-52-53.pdf>
- **PS 609 (Aug 03), page 53, tent repair tape and tentage repair kit**
<https://www.logsa.army.mil/pub/psissues/609/609-53.pdf>

You'll find these PS stories and more on the PS Magazine web site at
<https://www.logsa.army.mil/psmag/psonline.cfm>

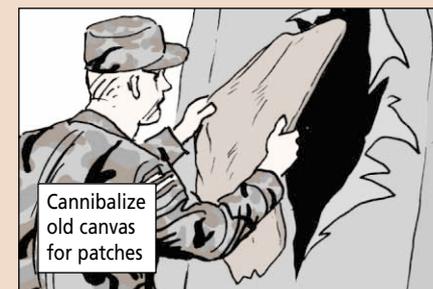
Disregard any information in these stories about waterproofing preservative, NSN 8030-00-281-2346. It's a terminal item, and the Army has no substitute for it.

The tentage repair kit, NSN 8430-00-262-5767, is essential for field repairs. Just remember, the canvas sheets that originally came with the kit are no longer available. The kit now comes with polyester sheets.



In the past, soldiers used chemical biocide to remove mildew from canvas. Not any more. The Army forbids its use because it's considered harmful to the environment.

One final suggestion about canvas PM: Don't discard entire tents, tarps and vehicle covers just because parts of them are worn and torn. Cannibalize them. Keep a supply of canvas scraps for patches.



Cannibalize old canvas for patches

Turn It In

When canvas becomes too worn out for your unit to repair, turn it in through normal supply channels. Learn more about turn-in policies by reading AR 710-2, *Inventory Management Supply Policy Below the Wholesale Level*, and AR 750-1, *Army Materiel Maintenance Policy*.

Unit maintenance can dispose of Class IX items, such as vehicle covers. Class II items, such as tents, are a different matter. Turn those in to the Supply Support Activity or the installation Directorate of Logistics.