

Rigger's Hang Gliding Parachute Inspection Checklist

(rev. 1-95)

Parachute Canopy checking items

Good Not good

Vent line restriction at apex

Vent lines are taut

Vent Lines are Loose and there is no vent reinforcement webbing or the vent is reinforced by weak webbing

Vent lines are loose but the vent has reinforcement equal to 1500lb. (i.e.: 1/2" tubular webbing, Kevlar reinforcement, 1" webbing)

Skirt (check with chute under tension from apex to bridle)

Skirt lengths are approximately equal.

There is a difference of 6" or more on skirt length

Line attachments at the skirt

V-Tab or line loop is at the line attachment

No V-tab or line loop; line attachment shorter than 11"

No V-Tab or line loop; line attachment is at least 11" long

Line is attached with a single bar tack at the skirt

Each line is folded and bar tacked to form the loop attaching it to the bridle.

One line runs from the skirt of 1 gore (panel) loops around the bridle, has 1 bar tack holding the line in place and continues up to the next gore

Count number of lines on the canopy

There is 1 line from each radial seam to the bridle and that line is finger trapped, then bar tacked.

Only half as many lines as there are radial seams

Inspect the bridle

It is 1" flat webbing (type 18) and it is at least 24' long.

It is 1" tubular webbing and/or shorter than 24' long

Inspect the canopy

Continuous solid construction full length of radial seam

Slots or vents built into one side of the canopy only

Slots or vents with one in each quadrant of the canopy and the parachute is more than 420 sq. ft.

Slots or vents as above but less than 420 sq. ft.

Reinforcement tape along the full length of the radial seam

No reinforcement tape along the radial seams

This check list does not cover stains or material defects that may be present. A qualified rigger has the tools and knowledge to help you determine the airworthiness of the materials.

Deployment bag considerations that should be checked on all hang gliding parachutes include:

Deployment Bag items

Okay Not okay

Handle sewn securely to the deployment bag

Handle sewn without reinforcement

Has safety pins attached

No safety pin arrangement

Safety Pins

Curved with smooth ends

Have burrs on the end of the pin

Are made from solid wire or die cut with smooth edges

Are made from clevis pins or cable

Safety pins do not easily release when handle is pulled.

Line stowage

Lines are enclosed in the deployment bag or a separate line pocket on the deployment bag

Lines stowed on outside of bag with rubber bands.

Deployment bag

Easily releases from the harness

It gets caught up in the harness container

Use conventional rigger's techniques to determine airworthiness of materials.

Always obtain original packing instructions from the manufacturer.