Tent Draping – Sophistication and Style

1:30 p.m.  Room S330 A

Cierra Button
Colonial Party & Event Rental, Troy, MI

Shereé Bochenek
Après Party and Tent Rentals, Edina, MN

Tommy Wilson, CERP
All Occasions Event Rental, Cincinnati, OH
Tent Draping – Sophistication and Style

Presented by:
Cierra Button, Colonial Party & Event Rental, Mich.
Sheré Bochenek, Après Party and Tent Rentals, Minn.
Tommy Wilson, CERP, All Occasions Event Rental, Ohio

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The Basics of Draping

Draping Basics

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Small Tools

- Cable/Wire Zip Ties
- Cutter Tool
- Pearl Head Pins
- Work Apron

Major Tools

- Step Ladder
- 6, 8 and 10 Foot Ladder
- Minimum 2 Rolls White Wide Voile Fabric
- 30”-wide Banquet Table (for Fabric Rolling)

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Tent Attachment Points
Frame and Century tents have many attachment points

Draping a Frame Tent
Guidelines for fabric rolls

Frame Tent Draping
Dealing with the Brace
Draping a Century Tent

Center poles require cover/drape

Draping a Century Tent

The Basic Design
Draping a Clear Span Tent

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The Draping Design

- Diagram the design
- Working within a budget
Attachment Points

- Clear Span Tents can lack attachment points
- Create attachment points with clamps, brackets, airline cable

The Perfect Swag

Your best teacher is your last mistake.
Draping With Accent Color

- The accent color can be narrower—60" wide.
- Drape accent color separately.

Adding Lights
Attach them separately

Draping with Narrow Fabric
45" - 60" fabric
Flat Draping

Examples of Flat Draping

Flat Drape Essentials
Lay Airline Cable
Side Pole Draping

Panels with Pockets

Drilled PVC

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Backdrops

Après Party and Tent Rental

Backdrops

Après Party and Tent Rental
Where Do We Start....

- When I hear that we are draping a tent I have two questions:
  - What is wrong with the bottom of the tent?
  - How elaborate is the draping?
- As most of you know there is a huge variety in tent draping
  - Fabric
  - Complexity of design
  - Type of tent the draping is going in
  - And location of the draping
Liners

- There are two types of liners our company has:
  - Standard Baytex liners
  - Custom Liners
- Standard Baytex Liner:
  - By far the easiest to install
  - Hook on to the jump line and is raised by a pulley system attached to a center pole
  - Comes in multiple sizes
  - Includes certification saying that it is flame retardant

- Even though it is a simple liner it totally changes the look of a tent
- Downsides?
  - Only comes in white
  - One type of fabric
  - The corners are a bit tricky after the first few washes.
There are several different ways to do these liners:

- **Bail ring**
  - Attach around a center pole as an attachment point
  - Hook directly onto the jump line with zip ties or curtain hooks

**Custom Continued…**

- **PVC Pipes/Metal Rods**
  - They can either be your best friend or worst enemy
  - We measure out a tent span and add five to fifteen yards of fabric for what we call the billowing effect

**Custom Continued…**

- The drape is channeled in the center and either side
  - The center channel slides onto the pipe
  - The side channels are also attached to pipes which are then zip-tied to the lines
  - They can also be strung up with curtain hooks onto the jump line
Custom Continued...

• The whole liner is then raised using a pulley system from the ground
  – It is very important to have someone on the ground check to make sure the whole liner is level
  – Way better to have an even liner than to have it going at an angle

Custom Continued...

• The last method we regularly use is wood strips
  – This method is exclusive to Losberger Tents
• Wood strips can be drilled right into the top and the fabric can be stapled straight on
  – The sides can either be attached by curtain hooks or zip-ties
Custom Continued...

• An occasional method is sliding the fabric between the peak poles and the canvas
  – If there is space for this it is a great time saver but usually the canvas is way to tight for this method
• Custom liners are not an exact science and we have had our share of rough patches while installing
• It is always a learning experience

Swags

• Most swags are just a variation of the same idea
• They add a pop to your event
• Color
• Elegance
• Simple and effective way for covering unappealing hardware or rigging
• There are several types that we regularly use:
Single Layer

Multi - Layer

Fabric

- Vendors:
  - Oriole
  - Liba
  - New Star
  - Rosebrand
  - Next Fabrics
Fabric

• Preferred Fabrics:
  – Chiffon, Voile, Silky Habutai, and Spandex
  – They look the cleanest and easiest to pleat

• Flame Retardant
  – Fabric costs $2.25 a yard for flame retardant

• Can make the fabric a little stiff and difficult to pleat properly

Swag Bag

Bag of goodies we use on a regular basis to make everything look beautiful.

Stick Pins  Wood Strips
Alligator Clamps  White Duct Tape
Clothes Pins  Double Sided Tape
Curtain Hooks  Gaff Tape
Zip-ties  Floral Wire
Rope  Bail Ring
Fish Line  Staple Gun
PVC Pipe  Fabric Stapler
Scissors

We used 118” wide sheer pink voile from Liba
We used 118" wide white swag from Liba
We use 60" wide poly taffeta from Liba and Next for a lot of installations.
Time for Questions

Cierra Button, Colonial Party & Event Rental, Mich.
Sheré Bochenek, Après Party and Tent Rentals, Minn.
Tommy Wilson, CERP, All Occasions Event Rental, Ohio

Access to Après Party and Tent Rentals and All Occasions Event Rental demonstration videos will be provided to Events & Tents attendees along with the podcast in March.

Next Sessions

Let's Talk Cold Weather Tenting | Room 330A
Eyeing the Future of Linens | Room 330G
Listen Up and Sell More! | Room 330E
Strategies for Making Sound Borrowing Decisions | Room 331A