

User Manual

Taiga



Gordigear

Thank you very much for buying a Gordigear Trailer Tent. We and countless satisfied customers worldwide believe that you have exercised excellent judgement in your selection. Our products have been designed to give you many years of comfort and reliability during your adventures. The Gordigear Team tries the outmost to meet the highest expectations by designing and crafting highly functional, flexible and durable products that withstand and support your active lifestyle. Successful operation and long life depends on proper maintenance and correct operating techniques. We recommend that you carefully read this entire manual before installing and operating the tent. Keep this manual handy for future reference.

Index of contents:

What's in the box?	Page 2
How to prepare my trailer?	Page 2
What if my trailer does not have the required size?	Page 3
What mounting options do I have?	Page 5
Permanent installation with hinge and gas strut	Page 5
Non-permanent installation with angle brackets	Page 14
Setting up your tent	Page 16
How to strike your tent	Page 21
Add on room assembly	Page 23
Shower room assembly	Page 27
Spreader Poles	Page 28
Understand how your tent keeps waterproof	Page 29
Storage and handling guidelines	Page 31
Important and helpful hints	Page 32
Warranty and contact details	Page 33

What's in the box?

Before you start to fix your tent to your trailer, take a minute and check all parts provided.

Included in delivery:

Item:	Where to be found:
1 x Trailer tent	Transport carton
1 x Travel cover	Fixed to tent
1 x Ladder	Within ladder bag
1 x Tailgate cover	Stored on the folded tent
1 x Window sidewalls	Stored on the folded tent
1 x Set of Poles	Polebag
Repair kit	Repair kit bag
Ropes and pegs	Accessories bag

How to prepare my trailer?

Our tent is designed to fit onto 7x5, 7x4 and 6x4 high-side trailers. For different size trailers installation is usually possible, however a few more steps are required when mounting the tent. You will find instructions on how to amend your trailer and/or the tent frame within this manual.

We very rarely come across a trailer that is not suitable for our tent. Regarding the height, the ideal installation height is between 90-110cm. Trailers below 90cm will cause excess tent material to bulge toward the trailer side wall, which is only a cosmetically problem. Alternatively, a support frame can be installed in or on the trailer to lift the installation height.

For trailer with a length of more than 7ft we recommend to install a dividing wall to be able to seal the main compartment against water and dust.

Important:

Make sure your trailer is roadworthy and has the integrity to support the weight of the tent, gear and users.

Hint:

If you intend to use your camping trailer separated from your car, you need to mount stabiliser legs to the trailer to prevent it from tilting

What if my trailer does not have the required size?

In case your trailer does not fulfil the size requirements and parts of the tent frame do not rest directly on the trailer walls, you have two easy options to solve this problem.

Please be kind enough to read the next section of how to mount the tent to your trailer before you start. This will give you an overview and understanding of the tasks ahead.

Amend the tent frame:



Add 2cm thick steel, aluminium or wood sections where the frame is not sitting on top of the trailer walls to allow your trailer to be sealed later on.

Important:

The piano hinge must be mounted on one of the original steel frame sections as they are designed to hold the weight of the tent.

You must not mount them onto sections you added yourself.

Amend the trailer frame:



Add additional frame section and mount them directly to your trailer walls.



Use angle brackets to fix frame sections to the trailer walls.

Important:

Please make sure the hinges are attached to the original metal frame of the trailer tent.

What mounting options do I have?

There are two common installation methods, depending on whether or not the trailer is to be a purpose-built camping trailer.

For a purpose built camping trailer, the recommended installation is via a piano hinge, two struts and two locking latches. This will facilitate loading your gear into the trailer, once the tent has been mounted.

If a non-permanent installation is required, e.g. if the trailer is to be used for other tasks aside from camping, it is recommended to bolt the tent down on all sides with the exception of the tailgate side. After the camping trip, simply unbolt and lift the tent off.

IMPORTANT:

The tent is more than 150kg and sufficient help is needed to carry and move the object without endangering your personal safety.

Please make sure you have enough help available before you start moving or installing the trailer tent.

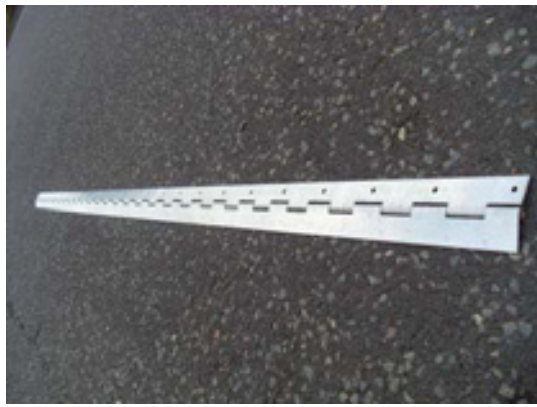
A minimum of 4 persons is required to lift or move the tent.

Permanent installation with hinge and gas strut



[Mounting Video: http://www.gordigear.com/trailer_tents/trailer_tents.php?l=en](http://www.gordigear.com/trailer_tents/trailer_tents.php?l=en)

Parts required:



1 x Full trailer length piano hinge (heavy duty)



2 x Gas struts (specified to the weight of the tent)



4 x Gas struts mounting hinges



1 x Sealing foam



2 x Locking latch



20-30 x Stainless steel self-drilling screws (heavy duty)



40-50 x Rivets (heavy duty)



4 x Stainless steel bolts 6mm incl. washer and split ring.

Step by step hinge and gas strut mounting:



Secure your trailer against rolling and tipping.



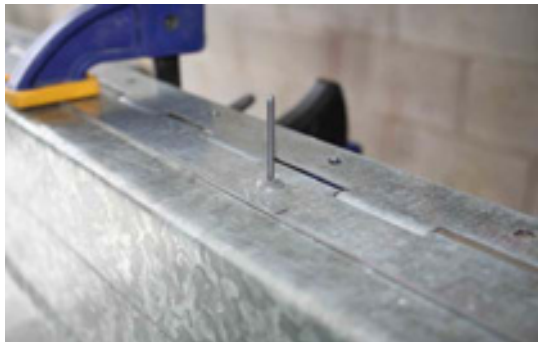
Before you lift the tent onto your trailer you need to install the piano hinge.
Put the piano hinge flat onto the side you want the tent to be hinged.
Mark the length of the hinge.
Cut the hinge with a metal saw or angle grinder to the desired length.



Place the hinge flat (NOT FOLDED) onto the trailer and fix it with clamps.



Drill holes in max 10cm distance through the hinge and the side wall of your trailer.
The hole size needs to fit the rivets you use later on.



Use heavy duty rivets.



Fix the hinge to the trailer with heavy duty rivets.



Your tent will open towards the right side of the trailer (looking at your trailer from a rear point of view).
Place your tent onto your trailer and remove the carton.
Make sure the tent opens towards the right direction. The zip of the travel cover should start facing the rear of your trailer.



Align the tent frame with your trailer walls.
The tent frame segment that connects to the piano hinge is made to sit slightly outside the trailer wall to connect to the flat piano hinge.



The remaining 3 tent steel frame sections should sit directly on your trailers side walls.



Once you are satisfied with the position of your tent, fix the hinge to the trailer frame from underneath.
Drill holes through the piano hinge and the steel tent frame that fit your rivets.



Use a row of rivets with a distance of no more than 10cm to fix the piano hinge directly to the steel frame of the tent.



IMPORTANT:

To install the gas struts you need to open the tent to the desired height and secure it with two supports.

Supports of 100 – 120cm length are most suitable.

Before you start working inside the trailer, get at least one other person to secure it from falling.



The gas struts need to be fixed to the metal frame of the tent and the side wall of your trailer. The piston of the gas strut needs to face upwards. The strut needs an angle that allows it to lift/hold the tent and provides room to close the tent without bending it.
We recommend to fix the gas struts at an 40-45 degree angle when the tent is opened.



The gas struts have a safety pin on each side that locks the hinge to the head of the strut and prevents it from breaking free under force. It needs to be removed to attach or take the mounting hinges off.



Open and remove the safety pin to attach or take off the strut.



Put the mounting hinges onto the gas struts and mark the position you want to fix them on the tent frame.



Remove the mounting hinges from the gas struts and fix them with self-drilling screws into the tent frame.



Mark the position of the gas strut hinges on the trailer side wall.



Drill 6mm holes to fix the gas strut hinges to the side wall of your trailer.



Use 6mm bolts, washers and split rings to fix the gas strut to the trailer wall.

Important:

Please make sure the side walls of your trailer withstand the force of your gas struts. Especially in closed position, the gas struts try to push your sidewalls apart.



Once the mounting hinges are secured safely, click the gas struts back in (pistons facing upwards).



IMPORTANT:

Secure each gas strut on both sides with the safety pins !
The safety pin secures the gas strut safely to the mounting hinge.
Make sure you have the security pins back in place before you remove the support that keeps your tent in an open position.



The two latches need to be placed on both corners opposite of the piano hinge. They keep your tent close and in place when travelling.
Mark the desired position first.



Fix the locking latches with self-drilling screws to the trailer walls and the steel frame of the tent.



The sealing foam is placed on all 3 side walls and seals the gaps between the tent frame and trailer walls.

IMPORTANT:




Please do not forget to protect bare metal, including holes and cuts you made during installation against rust and corrosion.

Our mounting instructions are just a suggestion.

If you are not confident to install the trailer tent yourself or if it is necessary to comply with road and insurance regulations in your country, please consult a professional regarding installation.

Non-permanent installation with angle brackets

Parts required:

	15pcs or more heavy duty angle brackets.
	Self drilling screws.
	Bolts, washers and split rings that suit your angle brackets. We recommend at least M8

Step by step angle bracket mounting:



Secure your trailer against rolling and tipping.



Your tent will open towards the right side of the trailer (looking at your trailer from a rear point of view).

Place your tent onto your trailer and remove the carton.

Make sure the tent opens towards the right direction. The zip of the travel cover should start facing the rear of your trailer.



Fix an angle bracket to each of the steel frame sections of the tent from within the trailer. Depending on the size and integrity of brackets used, we recommend 5pcs on each of the 3 walls.



Fix the horizontal part of the brackets to your trailer walls with suitable heavy duty bolts, washers and split rings.

IMPORTANT:

Please do not forget to protect bare metal, including holes and cuts you made during installation against rust and corrosion.

Our mounting instructions are just a suggestion.

If you are not confident to install the trailer tent yourself or if it is necessary to comply with road and insurance regulations in your country, please consult a professional regarding installation.

Setting up your tent

The Taiga trailer tent is designed with our “One Pull” set up system. One person is enough to set up the tent in a few minutes only.

IMPORTANT:

All our products are manufactured to the highest standards and precision. They do not require any form of force during the process of pitching or striking your tent. In case you face a problem, please check for obstacles, fouling, foreign objects or too much tension first.

Step by step instructions:



Level the trailer with the jockey wheel.



Use additional stabiliser legs to avoid tilting of the trailer.



Unzip and remove the travel cover.

Pull down the remaining half of the travel cover.



Remove all the accessories stored on top of the tent and store them in a dry and clean place.

Unfold the first layer of the floor.
This part is the wall that covers the side of your trailer.



Unfold the floor section of the tent.
Now the tent is ready to be unfolded.



The entire Frame is hinged. Simply pull the tent towards you and it will unfold.



Pull the tent on both edges slightly upwards and unfold it towards you.



The tent settles in its basic shape.



Our frame is fitted with Grip Lock pole fasteners.



They release by pushing the lever in a 90 degree horizontal position.
Do not push them all the way down or it will lock the pole again.

IMPORTANT:

When using the tent on very rocky or muddy ground we recommend an additional groundsheet underneath to protect the tent floor. The groundsheet must not be larger than the tent floor, otherwise water that runs off the walls will be channelled underneath the tent.



Extend the internal Frame.
Fix the floor to the ground.



Put the Ladder in position.



To avoid damage to the floor, rest the ladder on the provided ladder mat.



Now enter the sleeping area and put two #5 poles in each corner and tension them.



Put two poles #7 in each corner of the main room and tension them.



The rain-shield side walls are kept in place via Velcro. Start at the corner section and work your way down.

Once installed, these can be left on the tent permanently if required.

Use the two provided poles, rope and pegs and secure the rain shield to the ground.



All our ropes have a self-tightening system. Fix the rope to the desired loop or pole. The part with the tensioning piece is fixed to the ground by a peg. Pull and tension the rope with one hand and move the tightening block in the opposite direction. Once the desired tension is reached, release the block and it will lock itself into place.



Fix the separation wall of the sleeping area with the Velcro loops and zips provided.

Hint:

The tent construction is self-supporting once the floor is secured to the ground. Nevertheless, the tent must be secured with additional ropes and pegs during windy, gusty or rainy periods.

How to strike your tent

To strike your tent you basically follow the steps for setting it up in opposite direction. Here a few hints and tips.



Remove the spreader pole in the sleeping area.



Remove the spreader pole in the living area.



Remove the ladder.



Remove all floor pegs.
Close windows and doors when the tent is wet.



Open the telescopic poles and collapse the frame.



Are 2 person available, position yourself on each side of the sleeping room and fold the tent by pulling each frame segment after another onto the tent.

Is only one person available, position yourself behind the sleeping room and pull each frame segment after another onto the tent.



Now pull each corner of the floor until the floor covers the entire area of the folded tent.



Pull the second layer of the floor onto the folded tent.

Hint:

Our tents are constructed to have the floor as last layer on top of the folded tent. This avoids that a wet or dirty floor is in constant contact with the canvas.

Now would be the perfect moment to give your floor a brief cleaning before you close your tent.



Make sure the travel cover sits neatly and covers the whole tent before you close it to avoid unnecessary stress on the zip.

Add-on room assembly

To enjoy the full amenities of your new Gordigear trailer tent we recommend to make full use of the add-on rooms and virtually double the living area.

Parts and Poles required:

Parts Required: 1 x Roof Awning 1 x Floor 1 x Veranda Walls 1 x Tailgate Cover	Poles Required: 3 x horizontal roof poles, connect to the main tent 3 x upstanding poles with spike 2 x upstanding poles with C - clip 1 x horizontal connector short, left side of the main pillar) 1 x horizontal connector long, right side of the main pillar
---	---

Hint:

All directions are based on standing in front of the tent, facing the main entrance.

Detailed Step by Step Instructions:



Connect the trailer tailgate cover to the main tent via Velcro.



Unfold the floor and connect it to the main tent via Velcro. Make sure the floor is centred, there will be an overhang of approximately 5 cm on each side.



Connect the veranda roof to the main tent via zip and Velcro and store it temporarily on top of the main tent.

Hint:

Put two pegs approximately 1 metre in-front and sideways of each front corner of the floor. Prepare two ropes and connect them to the pegs. They will help you during the assembly process of the pole frame.

Organise your poles and lay them out on the floor.



Connect all 3 horizontal roof poles to the frame of the main tent.

Hint:

It is easier to connect the horizontal poles by lowering the frame of the main tent.



Each Pole has a hook that fits into the holes you find on each corner of the main tent frame.



Start from the left side, connect the horizontal poles with the standing spiked poles.

Fix the rope you prepared beforehand to the corner and fasten it slightly, it will give you additional stability and makes the remaining assembly easier.

Hint:

It is easier to reduce the length of all poles when putting on the add-on room roof. Once it is in place, simply extend them and tension the roof on the frame.



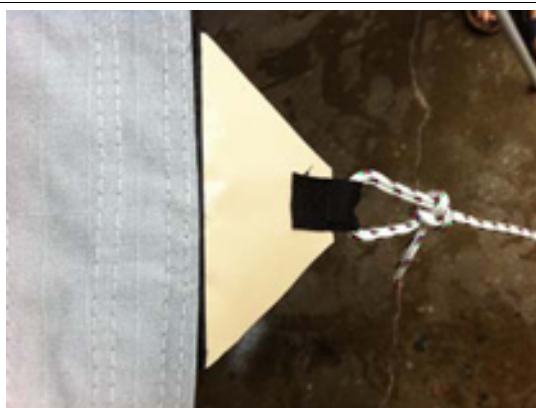
The basic frame is now self-supporting and ready to put the add-on room roof you stored on the main tent onto the frame.

To fix the veranda roof unhook one of the ropes you used to stabilise the frame, feed the pole into the corner of the roof, connect the rope back to the frame and fasten it. Do the same for the other corner and the main pillar.

Now tension all poles and fit the two remaining side poles.



Put rain caps on all vertical pillars to prevent rain from entering.



During heavy rain use the triangle pads, fix them to the roof section, tension them so they form a gutter on your roof that assists water drainage during heavy rain.



If you want to use your add-on room without any tent walls or mosquito walls, now is the time to connect the roof with the pillars. Use the bungee cords that are connected to the roof and hook them into the provided holes of each pillar.



Start to attach the walls from the highest point of the front wall and work towards the side walls.

Shower room assembly







Attach the shower room with all 4 zips to the main tent and close the Velcro flaps.



Pole # 6 is the pillar on the higher side.
Pole # 2 is the pillar on the lower side.
Connect both with a horizontal pole # 3.
Fix the shower room to the horizontal pole, peg the floor to the ground and secure it with ropes.

Spreader Poles:

	<p>Your Add on Room comes with additional spreader poles.</p>
	<p>These spreader poles support the roof section especially during rain and windy conditions.</p>
	<p>Simply connect the spreader poles on both sides with the roof frame.</p> <p>Put all poles into place before you start to tension each pole with appropriate force.</p>
	<p>It is important to avoid water pooling on the roof. To support water drainage, simply connect the triangular piece by Velcro to on side of the roof. By tensioning the rope, the roof fabric forms a gutter and supports pooling water to run of your tent.</p>

Understand how your tent keeps waterproof

Gordigear tents use waterproof and water repellent fabrics of the highest quality. However, with the addition of seams, zips and other desirable features a tent will not be as waterproof as a car, house or other solid structures. The following are common examples of how water can enter a tent and were you as the user needs to be aware of:

Initial seam shrinkage and seam maintenance:

All Gordigear tents are manufactured by expert machinists and all seams are treated and/or heat tape sealed. However canvas contains cotton, and as with every canvas product, we highly recommend to water the tent during hot weather and give it time to dry out before your first trip. Repeat that for at least 3 times.

This procedure will shrink the new seams, water proofs them and prolong the product life of your tent significantly.

In case the weather conditions are not ideal, you plan a trip into cooler regions or as a general advise of maintenance, we recommend to reseal the more vulnerable seams with seam sealer regularly. High tension, wear or tear and cold weather put seams under stress, sealing them as a measure of precaution will prepare you for the unexpected, avoid unnecessary inconvenience and keeps you on top of your adventure.



Use high quality canvas seam sealer and massage it with a little brush into the seam from both sides. Make sure you use a sufficient amount of sealer to allow the seams to soak. The seam sealer will solidify into a rubber membrane and seals it off.

Rain flaps:

All Gordigear tents use rain-flaps to provide a second layer of protection to especially vulnerable points like zips and floor seams.

Please make sure all rain flaps are used correctly and cover zips and seams. Make sure all flaps are supporting rain water to flow off the tent. Wrong directed flaps act like a gutter and have the opposite effect.

Zips:

All care is taken in the design to cover zips with rain flaps. At times wind driven rain could force water through the zips. To minimise this, make sure all doors are closed correctly and that the flaps cover the zips. Clean and maintain zips with silicon-spray regularly.

Structural integrity and water pooling:

A perfectly pitching tent on a flat ground is structurally strong and waterproof. During prolonged wind and rain it may be necessary to tighten guy lines and reset tent pegs to prevent the material from sagging or flapping and attend to drainage around the perimeter of the tent. Sagging and incorrect pitching weakens the tent structure and could allow water to pool on the roof placing unnecessary forces on the tent causing leaking and breakages.

Condensation:

When warm moist air meets cooler air, condensation occurs. The warm moist air condenses on the inside surface of the tent. Condensation can be reduced if the tent is well ventilated.

IMPORTANT:

We recommend you set up the tent at least once before going onto your first trip, so you can verify that all parts are included and you become familiar with the tent. This is also the perfect opportunity to water the canvas and seams

Storage and handling guidelines

What to do with my tent in between trips?

Do not store the tent wet. If you do have to pack away when the tent is wet, zip close all canvas doors and windows to protect the inside of the tent. As soon as you can, within a few days, open the tent and let it dry out thoroughly to prevent moisture damage. Open up the tent occasionally to let it vent out.

Can I pack the tent together when it is wet?

You can pack the tent together when wet and reopen it several hours later. If you do so, make sure the tent dries completely when reopening. We advise that you should always ensure that the tent is dry if it is packed up for longer periods of time to prevent mould. Although our tent material is mould resistant, it still might develop mould if stored wet for extended periods.

Do I need to reseal the canvas?

This will very much depend on how much you use the tent. We have customers that have travelled for months on end, using the tent every day and they still find that it is as waterproof as on the day they bought it. However, it is a good idea to reseal if the tent is in frequent use. Only utilise quality protective agent from your local camping/outdoor shop, use quality seam sealer to revitalise the seam protection.

How should I take care of my Gordigear tent?

Clean with cold water only. A brush can be used if required. Do not use chemicals, soap or detergents. Using a silicon spray on all zips from time to time will extend their life. As with any tent, it is recommended to thoroughly wet the canvas and allow to dry before first usage. Repeat up to three times to ensure sealing of the material.

Mildew:

To avoid mildew, never put your tent away wet or damp. However, if mildew occurs, use a soft bristle brush or sponge to clean. Let the tent dry in the sunlight and re apply seam sealer compound on the inside of the seams.

Repairing a tear:

For small tears, use a self adhesive patch kit. We recommend a canvas or awning repairer for larger tears.

Removing pegs

Pegs should be pulled with another peg, hammer or a peg puller, never by pulling on the tent. Avoid pegging your tent so tight that it stresses the fabric. Over stretching may cause peg loops and fabric to tear.

Floor condensation

A ground sheet underneath the tent prevents the floor from feeling damp and helps prolong its life. The ground sheet should be smaller than the tent's floor to prevent rain from running under the tent.

Fading fabric:

Do not leave your tent set up in direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time as this weakens and fades the fabric.

Faulty zip

All our tents are manufactured with highest quality zips. However, dust and sand are the main reasons for zip tear and wear. If the zip separates, you can fix the zip by moving the slider to the beginning of the zip tape and reworking the zip. If separation continuous, open the zip, give the slider a slight squeeze with pliers and rework the zip.

Important and helpful hints

Speed Limit.

To avoid damage to your tent or car and considering general safety, we do not recommended to exceed a speed limit of 100km/h.

Pre Trip Inspection:

Before, during and after each trip, please check that the tent is securely mounted to your vehicle.

Camp Safe – Safety Habits

The fabric may burn if left in continuous contact with a flame from any source. Also, the application of any foreign substance to the tent fabric may render the flame resistant properties ineffective.

To prevent injury caused by gas poisoning or suffocation

- Do not use fuel burning, oxygen consuming devices inside the tent. This includes candles, gas lanterns, kerosene lamps, stoves, cooking and heating appliances
- Do not use gas appliances of any kind inside the tent.

To prevent injury caused by fire

- Do not pitch the tent near a camp fire or any other flame source
- Do not use candles, matches or any other flame source in or near the tent (this includes stoves, cooking equipment, lighting and heating appliances)
- Only use recommended water repellent compounds on the tent
- Do not spray tent fabrics with insecticides

To prevent injury caused by electricity

- Always exercise care when using electricity and electric lighting in and near tents. Only use 12 volt lighting.

To prevent injury caused by your camping environment

- Do not pitch your tent on an area that could get flooded
- Do not leave your tent erected in strong winds – collapse the tent and seek refuge in your vehicle
- Do not pitch your tent near cliffs in case of collapse or rock fall
- Do not pitch your tent under trees with dead branches or under trees known to drop branches
- Do not pitch your tent near rivers, lakes or the sea known to inhabitant crocodiles

Understanding your tent.

- this product is designed as a temporary structure; it is not designed to be a permanent structure or dwelling
- Intermittent use only. Although our fabrics are treated for extra UV resistance, continuous exposure to sun light will break the fabric down. Fading of colour is an early warning sign. These tents are not designed as permanent dwellings or structures.
- Do not leave this product unattended if bad weather is expected. If assembly instructions are followed correctly, this product will withstand winds and rain. In gusty winds and storms you must collapse the tent.
- During rain always lower awnings to avoid water ponding on awnings.
- Never store a wet and/or soiled tent, as mildew and corrosion will form within a few days. This condition is not covered by warranty. Always allow tent to dry completely before packing and stowing.
- During strong winds and storm collapse the tent and seek refuge in your vehicle. Damage caused by storms is not covered by warranty.
- We recommend that you discuss adding this investment to your household Insurance Policy with your Insurance Agent.

Warranty and contact details

Please check our web page for detailed warranty information:

<http://www.gordigear.com/warranty/warranty.php?l=en>

Gordigear

eMail: customerservice@gordigear.com

T: +61 7 3305 0115

F: +61 7 3305 0203

<http://www.gordigear.com>