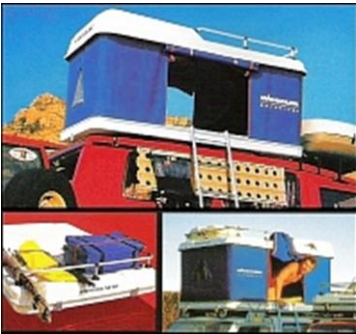


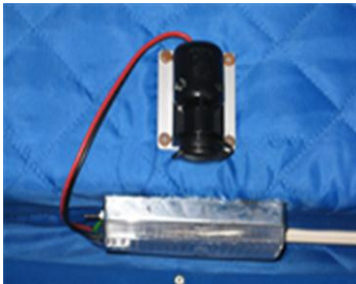
Roof Tent



As you make your bed, so you must lie on it. Many variations of roof-tents are available on the market from different manufacturers. The most widely known trademarks are Maggolina, Columbus, Overland and Overcamp. Each product has its advantages and disadvantages. But common to all is that they are mounted on the vehicle roof and therefore have a safety clearance to animals, insects and worms. In addition, they are pitched and struck within minutes. It's a „wow“ if only price would not be that high.



I decided in favor of a Maggolina hard-shell roof tent. Vendor was Procamp (<http://procamp.ch>) in Hinwil (CH). Price was acceptable and I have support close to where I live. In addition, they organize a get-together with all buyers of a roof tent on a camping ground in the region every year (always very interesting).



It goes without saying that you can buy options for Maggolina and – as usual for Italian products – some improvements and amendments are necessary. The (included) ladder was clearly too short and I had to replace it with a longer model. The same goes for the mantle against wind and water that was supposed to attach to the hard-shell roof with kind of pressure sensitive tape (it never kept). I replaced it with buttons. Then I needed an improved electrical connection (yes, there is light in my tent). I didn't like the loose cable from my tent to the cigarette-lighter in my car. So I replaced it with a permanent jack underside the tent and connected the cable with a plug on the chassis. At the same time I also added an extra connector plug in the tent for additional purposes (eg. heating pad under the sleeping bag for cold nights - if the battery has enough reserves).



With these improvements, I feel quite comfortable. On top of the roof-tent, I have attached some clamps for a spare tire (not wheel – too heavy). Repairing the hard-shell is also quite easy (made my first experience after some bricks fell on my tent, leaving an ugly big hole). The hard-shell can be fixed with conventional fiberglass repair material in general (my hole was too big though; I had to bring it to a professional).