

The following are our most commonly asked questions. If you have questions that are not answered here feel free to contact us.

Can I just leave the parachute in my airplane?

The most common damage seen with an emergency parachute systems is sun damage. If you choose to leave your parachute in the cockpit, cover it up.

At what altitude should I deploy my emergency parachute?

Deployment time and distance depend on many factors including airspeed. You should plan on pulling the ripcord by 500 feet. This will give you a safety margin. Generally, opening times are 2 to 3 seconds and altitude loss would be 150 feet (45.7m) to 300 feet (91m). A good practice to have is knowing your "decision deck" or that altitude at which you MUST make your decision to either land with the airplane or leave and use your emergency parachute. Always give yourself a margin for unexpected events.

Is my parachute steerable?

Yes, Strong Enterprises canopies are steerable for collision avoidance. However, this is not a high performance parachute, it takes about 6-8 seconds to turn the canopy 360 degrees.

What are landings like under my emergency parachute?

Imagine jumping off of a four foot high object at a walking speed. That will give you an idea of the landing you will have under your parachute.

How often do I have to have my emergency parachute repacked?

Strong Enterprises Para-Cushion Systems are designed for a 365-day repack cycle. Your countries laws may dictate a stricter schedule, check your local regulations. In the U.S.A current regulations dictate a 180-day inspection and repack cycle.

How do I get my parachute system serviced?

The Para-Cushion must be packed by an FAA certificated parachute rigger or equivalent with an appropriate rating or returned to Strong Enterprises for factory inspection and repack. For a list of Riggers click [here](#).

What is the life of my parachute system?

With proper care and maintenance your Para-Cushion will last for years. Strong Enterprises does not have an end of use (Service Life) on our pilot emergency systems. The continued airworthiness of an assembly is at the discretion of the

FAA licensed parachute rigger's inspection during re-pack. Strong Enterprises recommends returning the system to us every 5 to 8 years for complete inspection and any updates that may be required.

How often should I practice emergency situations?

Ideally you should practice every time you get into and out of your aircraft. With the parachute on, sit in your cockpit and fasten your lap and shoulder belts. Be certain these are over your parachute harness. Wear gloves, helmet and goggles, even headphones if you normally use them. Mentally organize your bailout procedure. Inspect your cockpit for projections or sharp edges that may damage the parachute, or injure you. Consider canopy ejection, oxygen disconnect, or other requirements that you may be faced with. All these things take time, and an emergency leaves you little time for errors.

What should I do for long term storage?

The best possible way to store your Para-Cushion is unopened inside the carry bag and placed in a temperature controlled, dry environment. It doesn't matter how long the canopy is kept that way.