

Obsidian Backpacker's Rendezvous 2017: Essential items that backpackers use on the trail - thank you to everyone who contributed!

	"Grubb" aka Mark H.	Mari B.	Sue W.	"Silverfox" aka Brad B.	Becky L.	Nola N.
<b>Pack System</b>						
Pack	ULA Circuit	Gregory Deva 60	Kelty Coyote 4750 (heavy, but it's what I've got)	Osprey Atmos 65	extra small	Osrey Aura
<b>Clothing System</b>						
Base Layer	Smart Wool long sleeve	Patagonia thin short sleeve top	Smart Wool Short-Sleeve T-shirt		long sleeve polypropylene or insulated shirt	wicking synthetic longsleeve T
Gloves	Polartec Wool	fleece mittens	Wool Mittens my mom made	REI Cotton	gloves or mittens depending on season	spare socks
Hiking Hat	Runners Cap with Bandana or Bucket Hat	Sun Day Afternoons	Any lightweight cap with a bill; bandana	Baseball hat	baseball cap	REI nylon billed cap
Hiking Shirt	ibex short sleeve sports	Sun Day Afternoons long sleeve	Polyester long-sleeve tailored shirt (St. Vinnie's)	Old Navy Active Go Dry	spf 50 long sleeve wicking shirt	wicking synthetic shortsleeve T
Hiking Shorts	compression shorts or just shorts	quick drying pants	REI convertible (zip-off) pants (St. Vinnies)	Old Navy Active Go Dry	shorts with removable pant legs	convertible pants, SPF 50 nylon
Underwear	Patagonia	thin cotton	yes	Shorts from convertile pants	a girl never tells	Barely There
Warm Hat	Buff + Wool Cap	knit cap, synthetic	Wool Cap	REI Convertible Pants	hood of fleece jacket	windblock fleece beanie, Buff
Wind Jacket	Marmot Wind Jacket			REI wicking	ancient windbreaker	long sleeved sun shirt, SPF 50
Warm Top	Marmot	Patagonia or REI layers, synthetic	Lined Marmot Jacket	Wool Beanie	fleece vest and fleece jacket	Columbia thermoball jacket
Sleeping Base Layer	wool sleep shorts, shirt, half socks	REI long bottoms, synthetic	whatever I have on	SportHill - thermal	fleece pants and wool socks, layers	T, thermal bottom
Other					1 short sleeve shirt, lots of cotton socks	
<b>Rain System</b>						
Rain Jacket	Marmot	Marmot Precip	Old bicycling rain jacket	Grundens	poncho	homemade, knee length 2.5 laminate
Rain Pants	Homemade rain skirt	Marmot Precip	Old bicycling rain pants	None	no	Froggs Toggs lightweight
Pack Liner (inside pack)	Compactor bag	garbage bags	Various Sea to Summit bags		lawn and leaf bag	trash bag
Pack Cover (outside pack)	Standard ULA pack cover		Pack Cover that came with the pack	Standard pack cover		none
Rain Hat	running bill cap	OR Seattle Sombrero	OR (Outdoor Research?) brimmed hat	Hood from rain jacket		hood of coat
Other						homemade sil-nylon stuff sacks
<b>Footwear System</b>						
Shoes	Brooks Cascadia Trail Runners	Merrill Ventilato - summer, Lowa Gortex - winter	Asolo Boots (an REI Garage sale find!)	Merrell - Vibram	the most comfortable ones I can find	Keen Voyagers
Socks	1 Smart Wool, 1 pair darn tough	smart wool	Smart Wool with Injinji liners	Smart Wool / 3 pair	cotton	Cabela X4, Wrights Duo
Gaiters	REI	Outdoor Research for winter	Haven't got any			
Camp Shoes	No - considering using Crocs	none	Crocs	Crocs (16 ounce) carry	no, don't want the extra weight	Crocs
Other				Water shoes - Crocs		
<b>Water Treatment System</b>						
Treatment	AquaMira & Sawyer	iodine	Aqua Mira (recently converted from filter)	StirPin	iodine for long trips to cut weight, filter for 3 or 4 day	AquaMira drops
Type of Bottle	Gatorade or Smart Water Bottles	Camel Back bladder, wide mouth	Camel Bak, Platypus 1 liter, small bottle	REI - Nalgene 32oz	60 oz	old "Crystal Springs" bottles
Capacity	# bottles @ 1 liter each	3 liter	More than I could carry if full			2 1-liter (more for dry camp)
Other	bottom of plastic bottle cut for dipping	1 liter empty		Camelback - 64oz		
<b>Sleep System</b>						
Tent	Big Agnes Fly Creek UL2	Big Agnes Fly Creek 1	Big Agness Fly Creek UL2 (2 person)	REI - Light Year - 1 person	REI quarter dome for 1 person	Big Agnes Fly Creek - one person
Sleeping Bag	REI 20 degree bag	Marmot Hydrogen or REI synthetic	REI "Sahara" Down Bag (25 degrees)	Kelty	yes	S.D. Backcountry Bed-down, silk liner
Sleeping Pad	2 1/8 inch Foam Pad	Thermarest Neo Air	Big Agnes Q-Core air mattress	Thermarest Z lite	no	Exped Air over 1/4" closed-cell foam
<b>Other Gear</b>						
Trekking Poles	none - plan to buy LT4 Carbon Trekking Poles	Leki with Speed Lock	REI brand	Leki - Makalv - Titanium	no	REI twist lock
Compass	Yes	silva and map	Carry one. Don't really know how to use it		yes	yes, plus standalone phone app
Mosquito Repellent	Gren Goo Bugs Be Gone or DEET		Sometimes carry DEET	Deet	never in Oregon	DEET 100%
Head Net	Yes		Depends on destination/season	Yes		yes
Stove	Pocket Rocket / Alcohol Stove	Snow peak GigaPower Auto	Jet Boil (new Christmas gift!)	JetBoil	whisperlite for 3 - 4 day trips, don't cook for long trips	alcohol cat food can (if flame allowed)
Cook Pot	500ml (Appalachian Set) evernew pot	Sea to Summit 1.3L X-Kettle collapsible	"		only for short trips when i cook	500 ml titanium with lid (REI?)
Spoon	Sea to Summit Ling Spoon	REI	Metal Spork (plastic one broke)	Long Spoon		long lexan spoon
Pot Cozy	Yes	no			no	beanie
Other	Small one-inch knife, 2nd fire starter, soap, headlamp		Plastic coffee cup/measuring cup	Coffe Cup - Titanium / 1 can fuel	empty pillow case to stuff w/ clothes for a pillow	Swiss Army knife, headlamp, fire starter, 10' cord, wash cloth, Campsoap, first aid and toilet kit depending on trip
<b>Goals</b>						
Base weight of pack (gear only, no food, water, or fuel)	Upgrade rain jacket, and keep reducing weight		Gotta get the weight down! Mostly food			
Length of typical backpacking trip	18 pounds		I don't want to know! Too much	30 lbs	21lbs	skin out = 20 lb, pack only = 16 lb (no food, water)
	2 to 8 days		4 to 6 days	8 days	3 to 8 days	3 to 30 days

**Additional comments:**

(Sue) I try not to spend a fortune on the latest and greatest, but just piece it together, over years, from thrift stores, REI sales, Christmas gifts, and whatever I already have. And I always find that figuring out the food is a lot harder than the gear. I would encourage people to take what they've got, borrow what they can, and just give it a go on a short trip so they can figure out what worked and what didn't.

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	"Jar-Jar" aka Mark L.	"Scrub" aka Chris B.
<b>Pack System</b>		
Pack	REI Flash 50	Elemental Horizons Kalais
<b>Clothing System</b>		
Base Layer	Patagonia Lightweight long sleeve	Ibex 150-weight long sleeve
Gloves	Black Diamond lightweight glove	None for three-season
Hiking Hat	Outdoor Research Sun Runner Cap	Outdoor Research Sun Runner, prefer none if not in desert
Hiking Shirt	Patagonia Lightweight long sleeve	Ex Officio Air Strip Lite
Hiking Shorts	Salomon Running short	adidas Barricade tennis shorts
Underwear	REI boxer	Ex Officio Give-n-Go boxer briefs
Warm Hat	Thin Polartec Cap, Half Buff	None for three-season — merino balaclava + jacket hood for sleeping if temps require it
Wind Jacket	Outdoor Research Helium	Patagonia Houdini
Warm Top	REI Activator Jacket	MHW Ghost Whisperer with hood
Sleeping Base Layer	Smartwool 150 bottoms and T-shirt	Ibex shirt, cheap sock liners, Montane Featherlite wind pants
Other	If cold forecast, then I bring 1 light pant	
<b>Rain System</b>		
Rain Jacket	Outdoor Research Helium	
Rain Pants	XL Tear Resistant Garbage bag as a skirt	None - maybe Montane Featherlite Wind Pants
Pack Liner (inside pack)	Military Backpack liner(Ripstop&H2O proof)	Compactor bag for sleeping bag and down puffy
Pack Cover (outside pack)	Another XL Tear Resistant Garbage bag	Separate compactor bag with holes for shoulder straps to feed through
Rain Hat	Outdoor Research Sun Runner	None
Other	A good attitude & favorite candy	
<b>Footwear System</b>		
Shoes	Whatever low top trail runner I currently own	Vasque Mindbender trail runners
Socks	2 Mini Crew:1 Darn Tough, 1 Balega	Rotate two pairs Darn Tough 1/4 crew
Gaiters	REI Desert Gaiter	None
Camp Shoes	None	None, or cheap flip flops from Walmart
Other	Spenco 2nd skin, blister kit	
<b>Water Treatment System</b>		
Treatment	Sawyer Mini	None ... Aqua Mira in extreme cases
Type of Bottle	2 Liter Platypus	Gatorade/Vitamin Water/anything really
Capacity	2 liter	Varies
Other	Plastic bottle cut off for dipping.	
<b>Sleep System</b>		
Tent	REI Dash 2	Big Agnes Fly Creek UL1, formerly Zpacks Hexamid solo
Sleeping Bag	REI Igneo 17 degree down	GoLite 3-season quilt
Sleeping Pad	REI Flash Pad sz Long (not long wide)	Thermarest ZLite
<b>Other Gear</b>		
Trekking Poles	Black Diamond Distance Z-pole 130cm	over my dead body (or old and broken knees, whichever comes first)
Compass	Suunto MC-2/D/CM/IN/NH	on phone
Mosquito Repellent	Sawyer Picardin 0.5 oz	Long clothes + head net — never DEET
Head Net	Yes	If needed, Outdoor Research Deluxe Spring Ring
Stove	Jet Boil Flash cook system	Usually none, sometimes a JetBoil Zip
Cook Pot	" " pot is in the system	JetBoil pot/mug
Spoon	Mt. Hardwear Aluminum	From silverware drawer at home
Pot Cozy	cozy is built in the Jet Boil system	Comes with JetBoil
Other	REI Flash pillow	Empty 28oz peanut butter jar for stoveless soaking
Goals	Become hardcore, Sew a Tyvek® rain skirt	Eliminate excess clothing in system, maybe one day learn tarp/bivy setup for big weight savings
Base weight of pack (gear only, no food, water, or fuel)		~11 lb
Length of typical backpacking trip		
Additional comments:		