

Outdoor Clothing & Gear

Characteristics of outdoor fabrics

- Natural versus synthetic
- Hand: the feel of the fabric
- Hydrophobic: water repelling
- Loft: bulk/ insulation characteristic
- Transporting: wicking away moisture
- Weight
- Strength

Outdoor Fabrics

Advantages & disadvantages

- Cotton
 - ▶ Breathable/ good insulator (dry) / wet = expands/ low cost
 - ▶ Wet = no insulation/ long time to dry
- Wool
 - ▶ Good insulator (wet and dry) / breathable/ low cost if “used”/ durable
- Polypropylene & Polyester Piles
 - ▶ Good insulator (wet and dry)/ non-absorbent/ cost

Outdoor Fabrics II

- Nylon
 - ▶ Strong/ lightweight/ hydrophobic when coated/ un-coated breathable
- Gore-tex
- Down
 - ▶ High loft/ low weight/ high compression for storage
 - ▶ Wet = no insulation/ high cost
- Synthetic Insulators - batting fibers
 - ▶ High loft/ insulates when wet
 - ▶ Low compression compared to down for storage

Ten Essential List (review)

Equipment to have whenever you venture out

- ▶ Map
- ▶ Compass
- ▶ Knife
- ▶ Flashlight (extra batteries and bulb)
- ▶ Extra clothing
- ▶ Extra food
- ▶ First aid kit
- ▶ Matches/ Lighter
- ▶ Fire starter
- ▶ Sunglasses

Survival Kit (review)

Another approach

- ▶ Small can or plastic container
- ▶ Matches & small candle
- ▶ Leaf bag
- ▶ Razor blade
- ▶ Bullion/ Tea bag
- ▶ Fish line
- ▶ Duct Tape
- ▶ Iodine tablets

Common Outdoor Garments

Boots



Common Outdoor Garments

■ Gaiters



Used to keep snow out of your boots

Common Outdoor Garments

- Hats/ Gloves/ Mittens
- Wool/ Polypro/ Down/ Nylon



See notes on fabric characteristics

Common Outdoor Garments

- Balaclava



Required clothing in extreme cold & storm conditions

Common Outdoor Garments

- Socks
- Underwear
- Pants
- Shirts/ sweaters/ vests
- Jackets/ Parkas

Key Questions

Explain these concepts or question areas from web lecture sources or these slide based notes.

- Tents
 - ▶ Double Fabric Principle (tent wall & rain fly)
 - ▶ Wind Strength (Domes & A-Frames)
 - ▶ Four Season versus Three Season

Key Questions

- **Sleeping Bags**
 - ▶ Shell fabric - nylon or Goretex
 - ▶ Insulation (synthetics versus down advantages)
 - ▶ Compression (down versus synthetic advantages)
- **Backpacks**
 - ▶ Internal frames advantages
 - Movement Fit/ Bushwacking
 - ▶ External frames advantages
 - Ventilation/ Trail hiking
 - ▶ Cargo capacity for typical weekend use

Key Questions

- **Sleeping Pads**
 - ▶ Types of pads (4)
 - ▶ Key factors: insulation and comfort
 - ▶ Key trade-off
- **Lights**
 - ▶ Type of lights (4)
 - ▶ Key advantage of personal light & headlamps
 - ▶ Key advantage of the three battery types

Key Questions

- Rain gear
 - ▶ Types (3)
 - ▶ What is meant by breathable & waterproof together
 - ▶ Key disadvantage to waterproof breathable
 - ▶ Key advantage to jacket style coat
- Boots
 - ▶ Fabric uppers versus leather uppers
 - Water resistance; load; initial comfort (break-in period)