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

- Felt Lined e.g. Sorel
- Leather mtn 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

- 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)