

WINTER BACKPACKING GEAR CHECKLIST

Be prepared for emergencies, sudden changes in weather, and the possibility of spending the night out in extreme conditions. Adjust this list depending on duration of trip and safety needs.

GEAR

Backpack, tent and/or tarp, groundsheet
Sleeping bag/pad appropriate for the season
Topographic map/compass and/or GPS
Floatation system: skis, snowshoes and/or micro spikes, ski/hiking poles
Lightweight shovel: for digging out snow
Stuff sacks or plastic bags: for moisture protection

CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR - appropriate for the season

Hats: for sun and warmth
Outer layer shell, hooded: for precipitation and wind
Hiking pant/outer layer pant
Under layer shirt/pant: synthetic or wool
Warm shirt layer: long-sleeved
Jacket to layer: synthetic or wool
Gloves or mittens: with shells for wet conditions
Boots: suitable for snow-covered trails or skis
Gaiters
Socks and sock liners: synthetic or wool

FOOD/STOVE

Stove, fuel and repair kit: extra fuel
Lighter and /or waterproof matches
Cooking pots
Utensils: cup/bowl/spoon
Multi-tool or pocketknife
Biodegradable soap
Food: at least an extra day's food for emergencies

OTHER ESSENTIALS

Food storage system: bear container not required from November 1-March 31
Water bottles/bladders: Possibly wrapped to prevent freezing
Water purification system: filter or tablets
Headlamp or flashlight: extra batteries and bulb
Human-waste bags: means to dispose of human waste
First aid kit: including footcare products, adhesive tape and personal medication
Sunscreen/lip balm
Toilet paper/ziplock bags to carry out used paper
Personal toiletries
Sunglasses and/or goggles
Whistle

OTHER ITEMS: Binoculars, sewing/repair kit for clothing, skis and/or other items, rope or cord, reading/writing material, playing cards, camera and lenses, camp shoes, climbing skins for skis