










## IMG Mt. Whitney Summit Climbs Equipment List

Mt. Whitney always presents a myriad of conditions, from very hot to very cold. Having the right equipment is paramount to your success. Below, you will find a detailed list of gear required for this climb. Unless otherwise noted, all gear on this list is required. Select items are available for rent directly from Sierra Mountaineering International. Please contact the [IMG office](#) for a copy of the rental form. It is most convenient to rent this gear on site from SMI rather than from IMG and incur shipping costs.




All programs will include a detailed gear inspection from the lead guide. We want to help you find a layering system that is weight conscious and conditions appropriate. If you are trying to decide between multiple pieces of gear, bring both, and let your guide help you choose. For more info on gear, check out our [Boot Blog](#) and [Layer Guide](#) written by Supervisor Porter McMichael to help you pick the gear that's right for you.

### CLOTHING





Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
Underwear & Sports Bras 	1-2 pairs. Wicking synthetic or wool, no cotton. For those who use sports bras, it is nice to bring more than one.	Personal Preference
Socks 	Bring 3 pairs of wool or wool-synthetic blend socks (no cotton). You might also want to bring a pair of thin synthetic liner socks to help prevent blisters. Your socks can be thin or thick, whatever makes your boots fit and will keep your feet warm.	Personal Preference
Lightweight Base Layer Top 	1 non-insulating, moisture wicking synthetic material base layer. This piece should be long-sleeved. Many guides prefer "sun hoodies" for this layer.	Outdoor Research Echo Hoody <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a>  Black Diamond Alpenglow Hoody <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a>
Lightweight Base Layer Bottom 	1 pair of moisture wicking merino wool or polyester long johns that can fit underneath your soft shell pants.	Smartwool All-Season <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a>




<p>Midweight Insulating</p> 	<p>Bring a mix of midweight insulating layers that you can use in a variety of combinations together to adjust your temperature. A good system could include a fleece pullover, an insulated vest, and a light synthetic/down jacket. Bring 3 distinct layers that are <u>not</u> the same. To read more on mid-layer systems check out our <a href="#">Layer Guide</a>.</p>	<p>Patagonia R1 <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Arc'teryx Atom Hoody <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Kailas Mont <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>OR Helium Down Hoody <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p>
<p>Soft Shell Jacket</p> 	<p>This jacket is light-midweight, breathable, non-insulated, and semi-waterproof. It will be used to cut the wind when it is too warm for insulating layers.</p>	<p>OR Ferrosi Hoodie <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Kailas Mont Soft Shell <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Rab Borealis <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p>
<p>Soft Shell Pants</p> 	<p>Soft shell pants should fit comfortably and provide a small amount of warmth and waterproofing. They should be made from a synthetic softshell material. <u>These are required and cannot be substituted with hard shell pants or athletic "leggings."</u></p>	<p>OR Cirque II <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Arc'teryx Gamma Pants <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Kailas Mont Pants <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p>
<p>Insulated Parka</p> 	<p>A parka is a packable down or synthetic heavily insulated hooded jacket. This should be very warm and substantially heavier than any of your other layers (1-2 lbs). This jacket will be worn over all other insulating layers, so make sure it fits on the larger side. <u>This is not the same as a light puffy jacket, down sweater, or ski jacket, and cannot be substituted by extra mid-layers.</u> For more info on parkas, check out our <a href="#">Layer Guide</a>.</p>	<p>OR Super Alpine Parka <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Kailas C1 Jacket <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Rab Positron <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a> <i>Available to rent from SMI</i></p>
<p>Hard Shell Jacket &amp; Pants</p> 	<p>Shell layers should be Gore-Tex or equivalent waterproof material, built to withstand wind and wet conditions.</p> <p>This should be an uninsulated shell, not heavy ski jackets/pants. <u>Pants must have full side-zips so they can be put on while wearing crampons.</u></p>	<p>Women's: <a href="#">OR Aspire II Jacket</a> Men's: <a href="#">OR Foray II Jacket</a></p> <p>Kailas Mont Shell Jacket <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>REI Rainier Full-Zip Pants <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p> <p>Black Diamond Stormline Pants <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a></p>

## GLOVES



Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
Lightweight Glove 	This is a very lightly insulating pair of gloves that will be worn when the temperatures are warm out and gloves are needed. These ideally need to have a leather palm and fit tightly.	OR Stormtracker <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a>
Midweight Glove 	Bring a pair of midweight climbing gloves that will be worn during the majority of your cold weather climbing. These must have a leather palm and be a durable, warm glove.	Men's: <a href="#">OR Extravert</a> Women's: <a href="#">OR Arete II</a>
Heavyweight Glove/Mitten 	A pair of insulated expedition weight Gore-Tex mittens or gloves with a removable liner is required. You will wear these on summit day.	<a href="#">OR Alti Mitten or Glove</a>


## HEAD & FACE

Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
Sun Hat 	Brimmed hat for sun protection.	Personal Preference
Warm Hat 	An insulating hat for warmth. Must fit under your climbing helmet.	Personal Preference
Buff 	Wicking, synthetic or wool, very lightweight neck gaiter for face protection.	IMG logo Buff
Glacier Glasses 	You will want a pair of good glacier glasses with a Cat. 3-4 lens and side shields to protect against intense sunlight and glare. This is one item that you should not skimp on. <u>Regular sunglasses are not sufficient.</u>	<a href="#">Julbo Shield</a> <a href="#">Julbo Explorer</a> <a href="#">Smith Embark</a> <a href="#">(Prescription questions)</a>






<p>Goggles</p> 	<p>Goggles are used for snow and wind protection at altitude. They are required when snow and wind is in the forecast, but optional in good weather. If you own goggles, please bring them. Your lead guide will tell you if they are mandatory.</p>	<p>Personal Preference <a href="#">Julbo Plasma</a></p>
<p>Sunscreen &amp; Lip Balm</p> 	<p>SPF 30 or higher</p>	<p>Personal Preference</p>
<p>LED Headlamp and batteries</p> 	<p>Make sure your headlamp has a full elastic strap so that you can put it on your helmet. <u>Bring with you two sets of batteries compatible with your headlamp.</u> Rechargeable headlamps are acceptable if they can be charged while on the mountain. Headlamps with 300-400 lumens will work great.</p>	<p><a href="#">Black Diamond Spot</a> <a href="#">Fenix HM50R</a> <a href="#">Petzl Actik Core</a> <a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></p>





## FOOTWEAR

Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
<p>Gaiters (optional)</p> 	<p>A pair of gaiters will help keep your pant legs free from damage from sharp crampons during the climb and will help keep snow and dirt out of your boots.</p>	<p><a href="#">OR Crocodile Gaiters</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Climbing Boots - Single or Double</b></p> <p>Double boots are required for cold weather climbs and are appropriate for all weather conditions on Mt. Whitney. Full shank single boots may be acceptable for warm, fair-weather climbs in the middle of the summer. Please read our <a href="#">Boot Blog</a> to understand the differences between boots.</p>		
<p>Single Boots</p> 	<p>Insulated single boots must be rigid soled. For some persons with sensitive toes, single boots will not be warm enough. Lowa Mountain Expert are available for rent from SMI.</p>	<p>La Sportiva Nepal <a href="#">Men's/Women's</a> <a href="#">Scarpa Mont Blanc Pro</a> <a href="#">La Sportiva G5</a></p>




<p>Double Boots</p> 	<p>Warm, insulated mountaineering boots with stiff soles designed to be used with crampons. Please note that double boots may be required during any season. If single boots are appropriate for your climb conditions, you will not need double boots.</p>	<p><a href="#">La Sportiva G2 SM</a> <a href="#">La Sportiva Spantik</a> <a href="#">Scarpa Phantom 6000</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
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## CLIMBING GEAR

Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
<p>Backpack</p> 	<p>Modern internal frame pack at least 60- 80L in size to fit all your items. Make sure it fits well with weight and expect to carry at least 40 pounds. <u>Bring a large garbage bag to line your backpack in order to keep your gear dry.</u></p>	<p><a href="#">Mountain Hardware AMG 75</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>1 or 2 Trekking Poles</p> 	<p>Collapsible pole with ski/snow baskets</p>	<p><a href="#">Black Diamond Expedition 2 Poles</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Climbing Helmet</p> 	<p>Modern climbing helmet that meets industry standards, fits comfortably over your bare head, hat, and/or balaclava, and your headlamp must be able to strap securely to the outside of the helmet. Ski and bike helmets are not appropriate.</p>	<p><a href="#">Petzl Boreo</a> <a href="#">Black Diamond Half Dome</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Climbing Harness</p> 	<p>Modern harness that meets industry standards, fit snug around your waist and have ample room to wear layers beneath. Both rock-style harnesses or alpine-style harnesses are appropriate.</p>	<p><a href="#">Petzl Altitude</a> <a href="#">Black Diamond Couloir</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Climbing Hardware</p> 	<p>2 pear-shaped, screw-gate locking carabiners 2 sewn nylon webbing slides 1 mechanical ascender</p>	<p><a href="#">Petzl Attache</a> <a href="#">Black Diamond Screwgate</a> <a href="#">Black Diamond 18mm nylon runner</a> <a href="#">Black Diamond Index Ascender</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>





<p>Crampons</p> 	<p>Modern 10- or 12-point steel crampons that are compatible with your boots. Aluminum crampons get damaged when used on the rocks found on the route.</p>	<p><a href="#">Petzl Vasak</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Ice Axe</p> 	<p>Lightweight general mountaineering axe that will work both as a technical tool and a glacier mountaineering axe.</p>	<p><a href="#">Petzl Glacier Axe</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Avalanche Transceiver</p> 	<p>Modern avalanche transceiver that meets industry standards. If you own a transceiver, bring it and your guide will tell you if you need it.</p>	<p><a href="#">Mammut Barryvox</a>  <a href="#">Black Diamond Recon</a>  <a href="#">BCA Tracker 4</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Snowshoes</p> 	<p>Modern snowshoes with underfoot traction</p>	<p><a href="#">Evo Ascent Snowshoes</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>

## PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
<p>Sleeping Pad</p> 	<p>We recommend an inflatable, full length pad. A closed-cell foam pad may be added for extra protection and warmth.</p>	<p><a href="#">Therm-A-Rest NeoAir XTherm</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Sleeping Bag</p> 	<p>Lightweight &amp; packable down or synthetic insulation 0°F sleeping bag.</p>	<p><a href="#">Therm-A-Rest Questar</a></p> <p><i><a href="#">Available to rent from SMI</a></i></p>
<p>Ear Plugs (optional)</p> 	<p>Soft disposable or reusable earplugs</p>	

<p>Pee Bottle/Pee Funnel (optional)</p> 	<p>Collapsible or hard sided 1 liter Nalgene models can work well. If opting for a collapsible model, please pick a 1.5-2 L model as it allows for more space while using in your sleeping bag. Pee funnel is optional for women. <u>Only bring these if you have experience using them.</u></p>	<p>Personal Preference</p>
<p>Disposable Hand Warmers (Optional)</p> 	<p>Great for those with cold hands but <u>cannot substitute heavy gloves.</u></p>	
<p>Small First Aid Kit</p> 	<p>A small zip lock of medications, blister care, duct tape, and band-aids for yourself. All guides carry a more substantial first aid kit.</p>	<p><a href="#">Adventure Medical Kit: Mountain Day Tripper Lite</a></p>
<p>Toiletries</p> 	<p>Toilet paper is mandatory, wet wipes are optional. Bring a small bottle of hand sanitizer, toothbrush, and toothpaste.</p>	
<p>2 Trash Bags</p> 	<p>Used to line the inside of your backpack for protection against the elements.</p>	<p>18 gallon heavy duty trash compactor bags</p>

## FOOD & WATER

Item	Description	Guide Recommendation
<p>Water Bottles</p> 	<p>2 wide mouth, 1 Liter bottles w/ a screw top lid (put your name on them.) <u>Please leave water bladders at home.</u></p>	<p><a href="#">Nalgene</a></p>
<p>Bowl, Mug, Spoon, Knife</p> 	<p>Lightweight, durable, packable. Bring a mug with a lid, a small camping bowl, a spoon, a small pocketknife and a small BIC lighter. A Tupperware can work well as a camp bowl.</p>	<p><a href="#">Fozzils Bowls</a> <a href="#">Spork</a> <a href="#">Sea to Summit</a></p>
<p>Drink Mix (optional)</p> 	<p>Gatorade, Nuun, etc.</p>	
<p>Iodine Tablets</p> 	<p>We provide clean, but untreated water. We recommend that you treat it prior to drinking.</p>	<p><a href="#">Potable Aqua</a></p>

Personal Food



SMI provides breakfasts and dinners. You are responsible for your own snacks and lunches.

[Food Suggestions](#)