

November 19, 2019

For those of you who regularly like to go backpacking I have put together a list of items (on a budget) that are great stocking stuffers.

Over the past several years I have tried many items, some better than others. In my opinion it all comes down to cost. For example, you can buy a lightweight tent for \$150 or for just one pound more you can spend less than \$30.

### **Backpack**

The first one is a good budget bag that served me well for several years and then I was gifted the second one.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B005HIMPJE>

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000F34ZKS>

### **Hiking Boots**

There are many choices, I bought these about 4 years ago and many, many trips ago and they have served me well. Lightweight, warm and comfortable. I have used these in temps from 20-90F. Price ranges by color and size. ~\$70

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000VX03PS/>

### **Sleeping Bag**

This is a good bag when it's warmer 50F outside. I like this since it takes up so little space and it was only \$20 when I bought it.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00FCQL46Q/>

### **Tent**

This is the greatest value. Usually runs \$25-30.

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Ozark-Trail-3-Person-Camping-Dome-Tent/4228174055>

## **Stove/Pot Set/Fuel**

These have gotten really popular lately. Extremely small foot print. I prefer the stoves with the hose since it has a lower center of gravity.

<https://www.amazon.com/JUN-L-Backpack-Convenient-Ignition-Portable/dp/B07P69GRZ2/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Odoland-Camping-Cookware-Lightweight-Backpacking/dp/B07Q5WCNDJ/>

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Coleman-Butane-Propane-Mix-Fuel/20595064>

## **Lanterns**

Compact and very bright, great to keep around for power outages. A set of 3 AA batteries should last about 2 nights worth of use. A 2 pack runs about \$12.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01KSXFN50/>

## **Headlight**

A good headlight is necessary and I sometimes use it instead of a lantern. They all have their draw backs. A red light is useful to see around camp without blinding others around you. A wide pattern is useful around camp while a spot light is better for walking and seeing in the distance. I find strobe function useless but they all seem to include that feature. I tend to use the second one more. There are ones with special batteries and can run a AA but these use much more battery power than I want to carry. These below generally run about \$10.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00SR20JLS/>

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B019MK6DX6/>

## **Compass/Whistle/Thermometer**

I bought this after a trip where we lost our sense of direction and the hike took way longer than it should. Keep in mind many areas of the park have no service and GPS can be spotty and that's if you didn't use all you cell phones battery. I probably use this the most to see the morning temps on cold weather trips.

<https://www.amazon.com/Coghlan's-Function-Whistle/dp/B000E3C6GY>

## **Water Filter**

I use this to filter my drinking water when needed. I have filtered some pretty questionable water with this and never an issue. I use it with a 2 liter bottle since the filter has standard threads.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00FA2RLX2>

**Knife**

Good quality knife. Amazon will no longer ship these in NY so you will have to order on eBay.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B007WHCFC0/>

**Fork/Spoon**

We all need to eat.

<https://www.amazon.com/WETPIA-Camping-Utensil-Stainless-Survival/dp/B01L0E991A/>

**Saw**

Lots of choices, I used the first one for several trips and then upgraded to the 21" version of the second one

<https://www.amazon.com/Corona-RazorTOOTH-Folding-RS-7265D/dp/B001RD7LRO/>

<https://www.amazon.com/SVEN-SAW-SVEN02-BRK-Folding-Blade/dp/B002ZO526Q/>