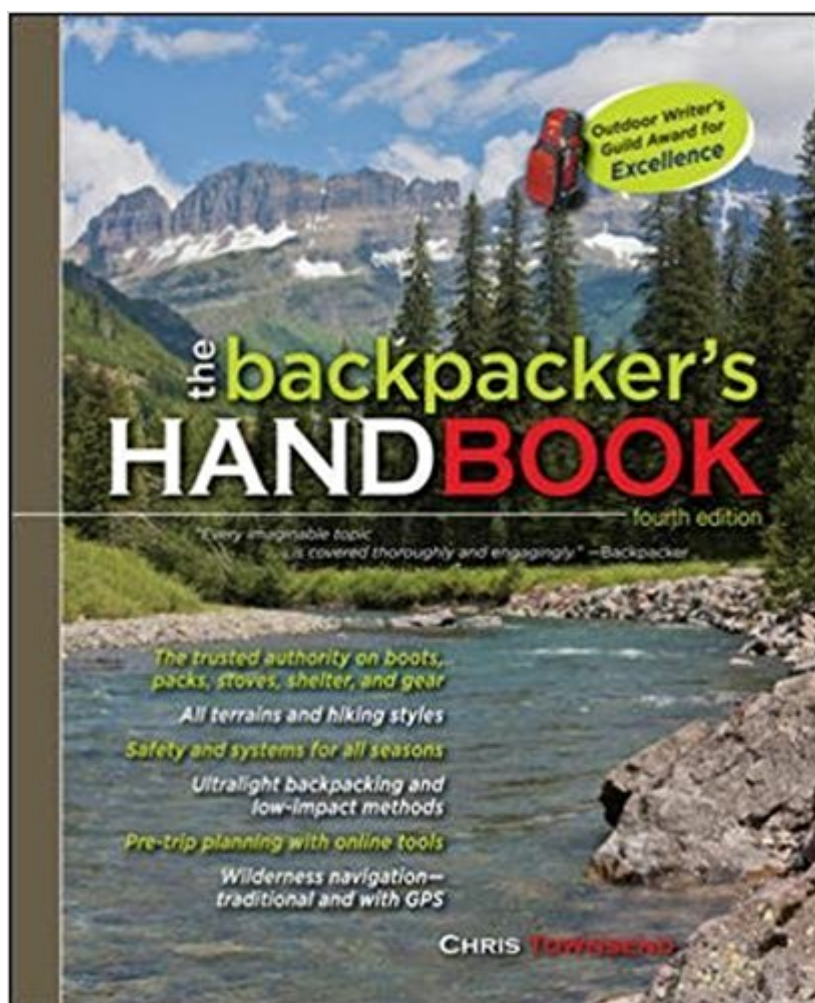


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The Backpacker's Handbook, 4th Edition (International Marine-RMP)



Synopsis

What you need to know before you hit the trails Whether you are backpacking for the first time or a veteran follower of the trails, this enormously practical guide includes everything you need to know, from essential techniques such as map and compass work to the skills needed for more remote wilderness journeys. The Backpacker's Handbook also gives you the latest information on gear. You'll find the last word on: How to choose packs and footwear •and make sure they fit What clothing to take on the trail Tents, tarps, stoves, water purifiers, and other gear GPS, cell phones, and other electronic devices And much more Reviews from previous editions "The most up-to-date and comprehensive guide to equipment and technique available anywhere."--Backpack (UK) "A clear and comprehensive primer on backpacking gear. Townsend's knowledge is immense." --Sierra "Belongs in every bookcase dealing with outdoor topics. . . . Chockablock full of useful, practical, commonsense info. . . . If you tramp the outdoors, get this book."â •Maine Sportsman "For those thinking of taking a backpack journey, The Backpacker's Handbook is required reading."â •Daily Local News (West Chester, PA)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Chris Townsend (Grant-on-Spey, Scotland), an internationally recognized rough-terrain hiker, is the author of several books, including Wilderness Skiing and Winter Camping and Backpacker's Handbook, Second Edition.

This is a great book for backpacking. Shows you example lists of what a pro backpacker would take along. This guy backpacks for months at a time so it is interesting to see what he does to make it work. Doesn't talk much about pairs backpacking (like what the two of you could share carrying the load on, etc.). But if you are going it alone, wow you will have it made following his advise. He also addresses use of cell phones and minimizing weight/excess stuff. It's really a great book, just a bit long winded for the beginning backpacker, especially if you're looking for a quick start and a few checklists.

I purchased this book after getting interested in hunting. A hunter is also a hiker, and I found plenty of good advice in this book applicable for hunters. I was particularly interested in the chapters dedicated to fabrics and clothes. No more cotton socks or underwear for me -- unfortunately, I learned that the hard way after hiking 15 miles! Unfortunately, I cannot verify his advice on tents or other camping gear, not having enough experience, but what he says definitely sounds very reasonable. One thing this book is missing is a section dedicated to hiking in the South (where I am from) and how to deal with the heat, the humidity, and the bugs. There's plenty information for high altitude hiking though if you are into that.

This book is even better then the description. It is a nice print, and includes lots of pictures and diagrams. Great for beginners and discusses any and every question you could have about backpacking.

Nice reference book, but the more experience you have, the less you need this book. Highly recommend for a neophile... but for Grizzly Adams... save your money.

Townsend has done his research. I found the book to be very informative and well written. Townsend paints with a broad brush, and necessarily so, there is simply too much to discuss, and the technology of the pursuit moves much to fast for anyone to write with detail; the beauty of this book is that he gives you a wonder starting point from which to do your own due diligence.

This is a good book to get you headed in the right direction. Lots of helpful information. Makes you start to think about things you don't actually need to take. every ounce matters when you're out on the trail.

Well written, up to date, and covers every aspect of backpacking and hiking...including winter hiking and camping. Very comprehensive, think of it as outdoor exploration exegesis. Get this book...it's money well spent.

I learned a lot, did not agree with everything I read, but I his opinions carry a lot of weight and I really appreciate that he shared them in such depth. More than anything else I value how he touched on a lot of topics worth consideration prior to a major trip. I flip-flopped the west coast trail this past week, and used a lot of what I learned in this book to help me prepare. I thought the section on nutrition was a little lacking, as he just uses those freeze dried meals, and his suggested alternative was way over the top for lightweight hiking.

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