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Choosing The Best Backpack For Your Needs

By Cathy Peterson

Backpacks are used for just about everything these days, from camping, to diaper bags, to

briefcase-substitutes. And for every use, there is a myriad of options available. Here are some tips on how to find the best backpack for you, depending on what you will use it for. Is the backpack for your kid to carry his books to school? Are you a parent using it as a diaper bag? This answer will narrow your field considerably, and give you a list of features to look for.

For kids headed back to school, you'll want to balance your desire for practicality with your kid's desire to be cool. Kids have lots of homework these days, which means lots of books coming back and forth. To keep your kid's back healthy, you want to make sure that you get a bag that distributes weight evenly across the back and shoulders. Padding in the straps and against the back can help, too. Rolling bags with long handles can help save the back, but if your child has to climb stairs at school, or roll the bag through the snow, it may make it more difficult to use and may require carrying, so don't load it any heavier than you would if your child were carrying it on her back.

If you're going to be using a backpack as a diaper bag, there are several features that will be important. First, it should have wide straps that stay in place. One of the advantages of a backpack diaper bag is that it leaves your hands free, which it won't if you are constantly having to adjust and hitch up the straps. You may also want to look for insulated pockets for bottles, separate compartments or removable bags for wet or soiled clothes, and maybe a removable changing pad. Another important feature will be washability. Diaper bags get used a lot, and go a lot of messy places. Make sure you can throw your bag in the wash, or easily wipe it down.

If you're using your backpack for long hikes and camping, you're going to be looking at a much bigger bag, so in this case, you want to try to distribute the bulk of the weight to your hips. This is done by the frame, which can be internal or external. Internal frames usually make for a more flexible bag, but that flexibility may lose you some efficiency in weight distribution. Comfortably padded shoulder straps and back panel material that allows air to circulate to your back are good features, too.

Cathy Peterson writes about

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Backpacking Adventure Travel

By John Purdy

If you are looking to take an adventure travel lasting a day or two, or over a long holiday weekend, a backpacking adventure travel may be a perfect solution. This type of adventure travel is usually easier to plan and will give you a nice break away from your everyday routine. Before you begin, you first have to decide how long you plan on being away.

If you plan on being gone for one single day, a daypack would satiate, but if you plan on going on a multi-day adventure travel, you would need to go for backpacking. With both these types, you would have to keep in mind a few more things. For example, the backpack for your backpacking adventure travel should come with sturdy shoulder straps. In addition to that, your backpack should also have enough padding and curves. This helps to keep your collarbone safe otherwise it would chaff it.

Another thing that must be understood with backpacking is having good zips. The zips should be strong and durable. And to make things easier for you, always try to opt for zips of the larger size. These types are always more reliable. Your backpack should also come with a good waist strap. And why is that essential for you? For the simple reason that it takes much of the weight off your shoulders and as such your shoulder would not get tired easily.

And the last thing that should be kept in mind before choosing your backpacking adventure travel is that the material of the backpack must be of the highest quality. You should not compromise on quality just because of cost. The consequences could be very problematic. Just imagine what could happen if the backpack gave out in the middle of your adventure travel.

So, you have got yourself a decent backpack for your backpacking adventure travel. Now the next thing would surely be getting an idea of the things that you ought to be keeping in your backpack. The very first thing that you should always keep in mind is that never in any case forget to take the maximum possible amount of water with you. You should also not forget to maintain sufficient amount of iodine tablets with you to treat the water you get while on your adventure. It is not possible to carry all the water that you would need during your travel and you are bound to use water from outside, and as such, iodine tablets are a must.

You will also need to transport food with you. If you pack each of your meals separately, you can save a great deal of space and you would be taking just enough food that you will need. In addition, you will also need to take some clothes. If you are planning a multi-day backpacking adventure travel, you have to take enough clothes with you to regular changes. You should also bring a good pair of shoes and do not forget a sleeping back and/or a tent.

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Keep in mind that your preparation will greatly depend on the location you choose for your adventure travel, the type of terrain and the weather conditions for that area. Be sure to perform as much research as possible before you leave for your backpacking adventure travel to ensure you will an exciting and memorable experience.

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information and resources on hiking and adventure, be sure to visit his sites today: hiking-vacations.net

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