
What do you carry and how do you carry it?

Posted by Jim W - 03/17/2004 09:05pm

I'm brand new to climbing, having just acquired my equipment. I visited Blue Ridge Arborist Supply (Culpeper VA--great store!) and Jay (kernsloth) was super-helpful. I also bought several items from New Tribe (another great place).

Now that I have this cool stuff (just received my saddle from New Tribe today), I realize that I don't really know just what to carry aloft, and how to carry it.

Some of the things I got from New Tribe are:

- open climb bucket
- zippered climb bucket
- monkeytail safety strap
- limb loop

I also have carabiners, throw weights, etc., etc.--literally everything one would need (yes, I remembered to get rope, too).

The question is, what do you strap to yourself, and where do you put it? What do you put in what bag, and where is that bag located? What do you clip to the saddle's accessory rings?

Of course, one would want to have the most-often used things easy to get to, while something that might not be needed could be at the bottom of a bag.

You get the picture.

So . . . what do you carry and where/how do you carry it?

I hope to climb soon under Jay's tutelage, and I'm sure he'll be able to address this, but I thought it would be of value for all of us to get input from those of you who are experienced.

Thanks!!

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Posted by Tom Dunlap - 03/18/2004 09:12am

I'm going to see if I can attach a pic. First try here...

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Posted by Tom Dunlap - 03/18/2004 09:13am

Picture

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Posted by Tear - 03/18/2004 09:28am

I'm pretty minimalist. I climb with New Tribe's Work Saddle, which has a little more hardware on it and a wider belt. I have a few extra biners on my right hip, and one of NT's bags (I don't know what it's called. It's got a drawstring) above my left butt cheek. In that I have a 25' section of rope, one end of which is binered to a ring above my left hip. In my bag I also have a mini-grapnel and sometimes a throwline/bag.

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Posted by Knothead - 03/18/2004 06:47pm

Jim,
It looks like Culpeper is in central Virginia. I'm from Atlanta, but I'm on a 3-6 month contract in Richmond. I'd love to get together for a climb. I wouldn't mind checking out Blue Ridge Arborist, either. Give me a ring at peterhedin-at-yahoo-dot-com. (My theory is that those pesky spam spiders won't pick up my address that way.)
Regards,
-Peter "Knothead" Hedin

LOADS!

Posted by Icabod - 03/18/2004 09:24pm

Here is a shot of me. The bag I'm wearing is no longer in use. I wanted something with a little better support...

<http://users.vnet.net/ctaylor1/images/me.jpg>

You can see some of my gear clipped to me:

- 3 tripple locking biners
- Rope (no kidding)
- 30' throwline
- 14oz. throwbag

Plus there is the Fresh Water Supply: 2liters (I used to use canteens on a belt with suspenders from an old BDU, now I use a bladder storage unit)

Then there is all the stuff in the bag that you cant see.

- 30' static kermantle line for double ended rig
- several screw links
- Pair CMI ultracenders
- 2-24" loop runners
- 1-36" loop runner
- Fig-8
- Two cords for prussics (used to be for footloop, but switched to distel hitch)
- Splittail
- 12oz. throwbag
- 150' throwline in folding bag
- Gloves
- Helmet (wearing that)

The question: do I need all that?

The answer: No, but when I do I want it in the tree with me, not on the ground or in the truck.

I clip the bag onto my Ness Saddle with a keychain 'biner, by girth hitching the carry handle with one of the 24" loop runners. It does weigh me down a little on the way up, but as long as I can carry that gear 2mi. in and 2mi. out I'm keeping it with me. If I know I'm going to have to go up SRT I will carry my Rack in too, but that thing is HEAVY, and I dont keep it handy (it is in the truck though)!

Hey! if anyone feels bad for me carrying that lump of throwline like that I'm accepting donations for bags to clip to my saddle :D...whats another piece of gear when I've got all the rest of that stuff?

Climb Safe!
Icabod

Posted by Tom Dunlap - 03/19/2004 08:16pm

That's called a Positioner. Meant to be used as a lanyard adjuster. They are nice! That is an old pic. Now I use a DEDA lanyard with one end on each hip.

I also changed from a square MR to a delta. The delta tends to keep the P in place without jiggling around.

Tom

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Thanks for the ideas

Posted by Jim W - 04/14/2004 04:13pm

Thanks to each of you for your input!

Everything from the "there's no answer to this" response from RescueMan (he's absolutely right) to the great detail from Icabod and others is good information.

This forum is such a wonderful . . . well, forum where we can exchange thoughts and experiences.

Thanks again, guys.

Jim

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Posted by NickfromWI - 04/21/2004 05:30pm

Rescueman- no fair putting a picture of me working up here! I don't care anywhere near that amount of stuff when I am rec. climbing!

For most rec. climbs, I only carry my friction saver, a few loop runners (maybe 2), and a 12oz throw weight. My saddle has some small brass snaps on each side. One side holds the friction saver, the other holds the throw weight. On the back I clip the carabiners and loop runners.

If I am staying up overnight, I bring a bag with my hammock (now a treeboat!) sleeping bag, food, maybe a stove, headlamp, and whatever other goodies I might want.

No one better be carrying some of the stuff I had on in the picture while rec climbing!

love
nick

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Posted by NickfromWI - 04/22/2004 07:33pm

That is I. One of the rare times I've worn spikes!

There's a color version of that picture somewhere...

[Click Here to see the color pic...](#)

Glad you liked it!

love
nick

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