



## Mountain Sports + Living

Spring 2010

Ultimate Set-up: Fast Packing

Featuring: The Stratos 34

Circulation: 125,000

Readership: 550,000



## fast packing

Time for Swami to trade in his The String Cheese Incident rucksack and acquire a modern pack with adjustable straps, back vents, and such.



**fast packing**  
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**Swami Swami** 44  
The Swami of the String Cheese Incident is a...  
**Mountain Hardware Field 34**  
The Swami of the String Cheese Incident is a...  
**Osprey 34**  
The Swami of the String Cheese Incident is a...



### Osprey Stratos 34

Osprey updated their Stratos series with their Airspeed Suspension System, a trampoline-style mesh back panel that form fits to your back, disperses weight evenly, and allows for serious ventilation. Features include a single ice axe holder, outside mesh pockets for easy access to essentials, and an integrated rain cover. Swami gripe: The lower zippered back pocket crowds the main compartment. Swami like: Finger loops on zipper tabs are a nice touch. \$139; osprey.com





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Ultimate Set-up: Cool-Weather Hiking

Featuring: The Manta 20

Circulation: 125,000

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ultimate set-up  
**cool-weather hiking**

Whether you're hiking the first dry trails of spring or walking to the store for a six-pack, kicking around in the mountains requires gear.

**hat:** With a visor to block both falling snow and the sun's rays, the Mountain Hardwear Wool Cadet Cap provides breathable warmth. \$28; mountainhardwear.com

**jacket:** This 6.8-ounce Outdoor Research Helium Jacket features fully taped seams. A hood and cinch cord at the hem keep cold wind off your person. And it's made of soft-but-the-skin, waterproof and breathable Pertex. \$140; outdoorresearch.com

**sunglasses:** With the easily removable side shields in place, the Julbo Mountain Break sunglasses block out even the harshest, snow-reflected rays. Without the shields, they transform into versatile hiking and street-style shades. \$120-190 (depending on lens); julbousa.com

**base layer:** The Patagonia Merino 3 Crew may feel as soft as cotton pajamas, but this is hardwear wool. Just thick enough to take the chill off your winter morning, the crew's 3% raglan sleeves eliminate chafing under pack straps. \$90; Patagonia.com

**shoes:** The La Sportiva FC ECO 2.0 is a shoe you could spend all day on. It's comfortable right out of the box and breathes like a champ, well-keeping your feet cool thanks to its Gore-Tex lining. The Vibram rubber sole is grippy and sure-footed, and hiking even the steepest, rockiest slopes a breeze, and bi-directional lugs under the heel keep you from slipping on the downhill. Sweat-proof, sweat-wicking, and sure-footed, the FC ECO 2.0 is a shoe you can't live without. \$120; la-sportiva.com

**pack:** Even with the hydration reservoir full of water, the Osprey Manta 20 manages to distribute weight comfortably with a stretchy, ergonomic harness and hip belt, and fully ventilated frame. Multiple pockets and a magnet to hold the hydration hose when not in use are welcome details. \$129; osprey.com

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