

479  
packs



568  
boots



428  
tents



16 BEST  
BUYS

navigation

# BACKPACKER

THE OUTDOORS AT YOUR DOORSTEP

## Gear 2007 Guide

*The best stuff we've ever tested!*

### READER FAVORITES

21 unbiased reviews from our new reader test panel (p. 18)

### ULTRALIGHT 3.0

Slash 11 pounds overnight with our perfect packing list (p. 144)

#### Gear School

#### 17 ways to...

- ◆ make your boots fit better
  - ◆ cook faster with less fuel
  - ◆ save a rusty knife
  - ◆ weatherproof your camera
- ...and more



### GREEN GEAR

Cutting-edge clothes that could SAVE THE PLANET (p. 24)

Two weekend favorites:  
Marmot's Nemche boots (p. 55)  
and Marmot's Eiger 45 (p. 33)



WIN  
A Gear  
Makeover!

Marmot  
Eiger 45

MARCH 2007

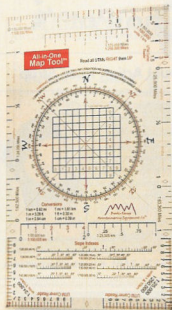


WWW.BACKPACKER.COM

### Map Reader

Brooks Range Mountaineering  
All-in-One Map Tool

This clear, gridded plastic sheet is like a Swiss Army knife for serious map readers, with a full arsenal of distance rulers, slope angle scales, UTM grids, and a beasing protractor for the six common map formats used in the U.S., Alaska, Europe, Canada, and New Zealand. It's equally at home on USGS 7.5-minute quads, or Canada's 1:50,000 metric maps. For serious traditional navigators, it offers all the precision of desktop software plotting without the processors and programs. It even has an English-to-metric conversion table. The lone caveat: It's only calibrated for preprinted quads, or computer-printed maps zoomed to 100 percent. Great as a bookmark, and light enough to carry all the time. \$15; 3/02.



### Mileage Scales Demystified

When? We answer that old trail question: "It's only an inch...how far can it be?"

>> Map scales are expressed as functions of "one inch equals," meaning that one inch on the map represents X number of inches on the ground.

>> On the standard USGS 7.5-minute, 1:24,000-scale quad, one map inch equals 24,000 inches, or 2,000 feet.

>> On the 1:63,360-scale USGS Alaska topos, one map inch equals one mile (63,360 inches = 1 mile).