



- ▶ All slings and carabiners are CE certified.
- ▶ Wide carabiner basket makes clipping easy.
- ▶ Light and strong Dyneema slings.
- ▶ Broad carabiner radius minimizes rope wear.
- ▶ Weight and breaking strengths: Double key lock: 104 grams, 28 kN; Key lock/wire gate: 92 grams, 27 kN; Double wire gate: 80 grams, 25 kN

## CLIMBTECH "Everyman's Pro Deal" Quickdraw

Double key lock: \$13.99

Key lock/wire gate: \$13.50

Double wire gate: \$13.00

[www.climbtechgear.com](http://www.climbtechgear.com) | ★★★★★

CLIMBTECH, THE COMPANY that invented removable bolts [Field Tested, No. 174] has just come out with a line of price-point gear dubbed "Everyman's Pro Deal." The new gear includes carabiners, ascenders, camming wedges, belay/rappel devices, pulleys and quickdraws.

I spent the last month testing three configurations of the Climbtech Quickdraw and was really impressed with the performance. The draws come with a standard 12 cm Dyneema dogbone rated to 23 kN. The slings are light, but not so thin that they rotate—a problem with some lightweight draws on the market—and they are thick enough to grab. The ClimbTech biners are midsized, between big and dinky, and have a wide, rope-bearing basket that makes clipping easy. They are large enough for my big fingers to manipulate, but compact and easy to rack.

Subjectively, the broad radius of the carabiner also seemed to help minimize rope wear. After a season of heavy use, the anodized color on the carabiner basket has worn off, but the biners aren't grooved and the gate action remains snappy.

Of the bunch, my favorite was the double wire-gate quickdraw, which weighs in at a svelte 80 grams and is light on the wallet as well, retailing for a measly \$13 a draw, about \$2 cheaper on average than similar set-ups on the market. Two bucks might not seem like much, but would add up if you threw down for a set of 20. Now there's no excuse for not having enough draws!

—Jeff Jackson



- ▶ 1 lb. 6 oz. Tent only.
- ▶ 2 lb. 4 oz. With poles and ridge pole (included for summer use).
- ▶ Easy to set up.
- ▶ Tight for two, but adequate for alpine conditions.
- ▶ Excellent tent for alpine minimalists.

## BROOKS-RANGE Rocket Tent

\$650 | [Brooksrange.com](http://Brooksrange.com) | ★★★★★

IMAGINE A WEATHERPROOF, wind-stable tent weighing less than a pound and a half. It sets up easily, sleeps two and packs down small enough to fit into a pocket. The Brooks-Range Rocket Tent weighs 22 ounces without poles and is made of Cubic Tech Fiber (CT3), an amazingly strong ultra-lightweight fabric that feels crinkly like a potato chip bag.

The Rocket Tent saves weight by using trekking poles instead of tent poles (tent poles do come with the tent) and an avalanche probe as a full-length ridge pole. These are items that most mountaineers carry, so they are put to double duty. The Rocket sleeps two with some room for gear and has a small floor-less vestibule.

The Rocket Tent is perhaps the first competitor to the high-altitude wedge tents (compact tents with internal cross poles). One mountaineering friend said this would be the tent he would use on the Magic Line on K2. Others practically fought over it for use on ski trips.

The Rocket sets up by placing your trekking poles into grommets on the tent's perimeter. Two external Velcro tabs on each side of the tent hold the poles securely. A large Velcro band wraps around the poles on the tent's top, locking them. An avalanche probe slips into a sleeve along the tent's spine, becoming the ridge pole (reflective tape the length of the ridge pole aids in finding the tent in blizzards and in the dark.) Three internally zippered windows allow fresh air and help control condensation. The front vestibule can be zipped shut or left open. Two side pullouts on each side of the tent help make the pitch drum-tight. Sidewall tie-through holes can help anchor the tent on those epic nights.

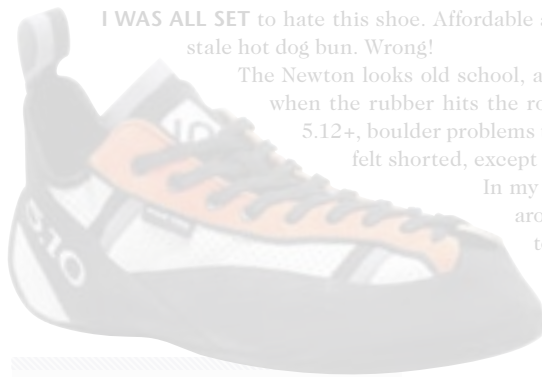
The low height (38") and aerodynamic shape of the tent allowed it to easily withstand winds measured at 44 mph. The low height does mean that you will have to crawl in the entrance, unless you dig out the snow in front of the door. This is NOT the tent for hanging out in and playing cards. It is designed for light, fast alpine climbing. If you are intrigued with a tent that is strong enough for high altitude, will fit two, sets up easily, has an integral vestibule and weighs less than half of any wind-proof, waterproof wedge tent, the Rocket could be the one for you.

—Larry Amkraut

## FIVE TEN Newton | \$109.95 | [www.fiveten.com](http://www.fiveten.com) | ★★★★★

I WAS ALL SET to hate this shoe. Affordable and cushy comfortable—surely it would climb like a stale hot dog bun. Wrong!

The Newton looks old school, and is billed as an all-dayer for cracks and slabs, but when the rubber hits the rock it performs. I wore this shoe on sport climbs to 5.12+, boulder problems to V7 and on a 2,000-foot 5.10 trad climb, and I never felt shorted, except on foot pain.



In my experience, shoes that fit in the length have stretched around my narrow foot to the point that the laces drew together, but the padded tongue, stretch-resistant uppers and "S-lacing" system on the Newton allowed me to pack my foot into the shoe and resulted in a secure fit that has lasted for months.

Despite the shoe's copious padding, it feels as light.

I did wish that the thick slab of rubber was a few millimeters thinner to yield greater sensitivity right out of the box. The upside of the thick sole is that it lasts longer between resoles. This is a good choice for climbers looking for a shoe that will get you up everything from multi-pitch cracks to advanced (but not elite) boulder problems and sport climbs.

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- ▶ Five Ten's stiffest, most comfortable shoe. Great for vertical edging and all-day trad climbs.
- ▶ Patented "S-lacing" and padded tongue lets you dial in fit.
- ▶ Lined Perfolon uppers are stretch resistant, cool and breathable.
- ▶ Sticky and durable Stealth Onyx rubber.
- ▶ Affordable.

WATCH VIDEO REVIEW @ [www.rockandice.com/newton](http://www.rockandice.com/newton)