

Walk Across America | Gear

Clothing	Item	Comments
Polyester Baselayer Top	Everlast Longsleeve Athletic Shirt	Essential sweat-wicking, next-to-skin layer. Awesome
Polyester Baselayer Bottom	Columbia Thermal Baselayer	Sweat-wicking, warm, and maneuverable. Awesome
Synthetic Blend Thermal Bike Pants	Pearl Izumi Thermal Bike Tights	Extremely warm, and water resistant, but barely breathable and hard to maneuver in
Lowcut Athletic Shoes	Thrift-shop bought mesh Nike's	Horrible support after being so worn out, but got the job done for the last 500 miles in the desert because they dried so quickly and were like \$4
Flip Flops	Nike Flip Flops	Awesome to wear when setting up camp or going to the bathroom at night. One of my most appreciated pieces of gear
Lowcut Waterproof Trailrunners	Keen Alamosa WP	Comfortable, waterproof, and durable. Favorite shoe from the trip for its versatility
Midcut Waterproof Hiking Shoes	Keen Verdi Mid WP	Ran too small, made my feet very uncomfortable, and barely used.
Goretex Trekking Boots	Tecnica Trek Pro GTX	Hardcore winter climate protection. Goretex is simply magical, insulation works very well, but takes a long time to dry.
Polyester/ Cotton Blend Socks	Everlast Athletic Socks	Dry quickly, great when used in a rotation
Merino Wool/ Nylon blend Socks	Keen Crew Socks (varying thicknesses)	Comfortable, supportive fit, fast drying, and more durable than any other sock I wore
Fleece Midlayer	Champion Eco Fleece	Great for warmth, except when wet. Becomes very heavy and very cold
Thermal Longsleeve	Nike Dri-fit Thermal	Versatile sweat-wicking midlayer
Cotton Longsleeve T-shirt	Dudetrek.com Tie-dye L/S	Met and stayed in touch with so many people through wearing my t-shirt. I believe that the tie-dye was disarming, and the link printed on the front made me seem legitimate. Very beneficial despite being cold and heavy when wet
Cotton Short Sleeve T-shirt	Dudetrek.com Tie-dye S/S	Same as Above
Synthetic Insulated Jacket	Sierra Designs Toaster Insulated Jacket	3+ Season Water Resistant jacket. Pit-zips work wonders for moisture management, and waterproof zippers keep pockets from getting soaked. Does get cold if it's soaking wet though
Convertible Nylon Pants	White Sierra "Sierra Point" Convertible Pants	Lightweight and breathable. Zip-off legs rule
Convertible Nylon Pants	North Face Paramount Peak Convertible Pants	Great pants for their warmth and water resistance. Unfortunately lost the legs while in Kansas and missed them dearly
Polyester/Cotton Blend Pants	Dickies Work Pants from Target	Very durable, but very cold when wet. Not a great choice for trekking through the mountains
Polyester Underwear	NordicTrack from Sears	Cheap and worked well
Hand-crocheted Acrylic Hat	My favorite slouchy hat	Learned to Crochet from my grandmother and made the hat myself

Cotton Bandana	One with Tie-dye, another with Peace signs	Works as face mask in winter, shades neck in summer
Walmart Hunting Gloves	Realtree Hunting gloves	Little to no value, rarely used
Insulated Gloves	100 gram Thinsulate Gloves	Pretty warm, but can't tie shoes or zip zippers
Rain poncho	Standard Plastic Rain Poncho w/ Hood	Staple in any backpacker's list of gear
Sunglasses	Had and lost many pairs	Cover-over shades were the best by far

Packing/Storage	Item	Comments
Backpack	ALPS Mountaineering Orizaba 4500	Used for the majority of my hike. Even when the backpack was very worn out, ALPS replaced it with a brand new one. Great Customer Service
Backpack	Mountainsmith Ghost 50L	Dream Backpack. Lightweight, Ultra-Durable, and allows air to flow between back and frame
Backpack	Osprey Raptor 10L	Used with Jogging Stroller. Didn't use for very long during my trip, but now use frequently for weekend and day hikes. Hard-backed bladder is awesome!
Stuff Sack	Sea to Summit Event Stuff Sack (L)	Must-have piece of gear for keeping sleeping bag compressed and dry
Stuff Sack	Sea to Summit Event Stuff Sack (S)	Must-have piece of gear for keeping clothes compressed and dry
Stuff Sack	Big Agnes Canvas Stuff Sack	Came with Sleeping Bag. Never used
Stuff Sack	Big Agnes Mesh Stuff Sack	Came with Sleeping Bag. Helpful for slipping bag into stuff sack
Storage	Quart and Gallon Sized Ziplock bags	Used for storing and waterproofing just about everything
Storage	Otterbox Drybox	Not Necessary
Storage	Canon Camera Case	Not Necessary
Jogging Stroller	InSTEP Quick N EZ 10 Double Bicycle Trailer	Allowed me to make much greater mileage, and carry more weight, but made camping very difficult. Should have just dropped weight in my backpack, instead.
Wagon	ACE Hardware Garden Wagon	Absolute failure. Wheels popped, kept tipping over. Just a bad investment in general

Sleeping	Item	Comments
Sleeping Bag	Big Agnes Encampment 15° Regular Right zip	Amazing synthetic bag, warm even when wet
Sleeping Bag	Big Agnes Hahn's Peak -20° Regular Left Zip	Couldn't have made it without this champion of a bag. Freezing cold when wet, so be sure to keep down dry by using waterproof stuff sack and ventilating shelter properly
Closed Cell Sleeping Pad	Walmart EVA Camping Mat	Cheap, but not comfortable
Self-inflating Air Pad	ALPS Mountaineering Lightweight Series Airpad Regular	Comfortable, but didn't last very long
Air Pad	Big Agnes Dual Core Mummy Air Pad	Comfortable, and when it started to leak, they sent me a new one! Awesome warrenty policy
Hammock	ENO Singlenest Hammock	Very comfortable on warm nights, and easy to set up and pack down

Bivy	Outdoor Research Highland Bivy	Not Breathable
Shelter		
Shelter	Item	Comments
Tent	Big Agnes String Ridge II 4-Season Tent	Extremely durable, but very heavy
Tarp	Walmart All-Purpose Tarp	Versatile, but stiff and heavy
Stakes	ABS Tent Stakes	Strong but bulky
Rope	550 Parachute Cord	Perfect
Eating/Drinking		
Eating/Drinking	Item	Comments
Pot/Cup/Utensil	GSI Pinnacle Soloist	Perfect
Stove/ Fuel Bottle	MSR Whisperlite Stove/ 22 oz. Fuel Bottle	Can be used with Gas, White Fuel, or Kerosene and easy to use.
Stove/ Fuel Cannisters	Sterno Portable Folding Stove/ Fuel Cannisters	Very innefficient and bulky
Filtered Water Bottle	Camelbak Groove Filtered Water Bottle	Never needed to use the filter
Water Bladder	Camelbak Omega Water Beat 3L Reservoir	Love it, but need to replace bite valve every once in a while
Grocery Food	Trail mix, Cereal, Ramen Noodles, Poptarts, Clif Bars, Nutella, Dried Fruit, Beef Jerky, Bread, Nuts, etc.	Cheapest, and often healthiest way to eat
Dehydrated Food	Mountain House, Backpacker's Pantry	Very lightweight, super delicious after a long hard day of hiking
MRE's	Military's "Meals Ready to Eat"	Heavy, but last forever, are easy t prepare, and are very filling
Restaurant Food	Fast food, diner, buffet, smorgasbord, etc.	Sometimes you just need to satisfy your cravings
Water	Water	1 gallon weighs 8 pounds, usually carried 2 at any given time
Electronics		
Electronics	Item	Comments
Cell Phone	Iphone 3GS	Allowed me maintain my blog, look up maps on the spot, and keep in touch wth friends and family
Solar Panels/ Rechargeable Battery	Power Traveller Powermonkey Extreme	Another favorite piece of gear. Solar Panels boke and were replaced for free. External Battery will charge my phone up to 5 full times
Tablet	Amazon Kindle Fire HD	Rarely used
Camera	Canon Powershot SX40HS	Fell in love with my camera and lost it just before crossing into Utah- zoom and detail were phenomenal. Brought me almost as much enjoyment as my guitar
Headlamp	Coleman Headlamp from Walmart	Dim and hard to angle correctly
Flashlight	Eureka SOS 120 LED	Perfect. Very bright adjustable beam
Miscellaneous		
Miscellaneous	Item	Comments
Multi-Use Tape	Half-roll of Duct Tape wrapped around Camelbak Bottle	Very useful, but didn't need nearly that much
Medical Kit	Gauze, Antibiotic, Alcohol swabs, Emergency How-to Book	Needed, but never used
Musical Instrument	Martin Backpacker Guitar	Helped me maintain my sanity and remain creative. Also a great way to meet people or make money on the street
Multi-tool	Gerber Suspension Multi-Plier	Only the knife was necessary
Writing	Journals, Pens	Wrote 5 full journalsin 11 months
Camp Towel	Cascade Designs Pack Towl	Works just as advertised, but rarely used

Frisbee	Discraft Ultimate Frisbee	Great multi-use tool (platter, fire fan, pack stabilizer) and another great way to meet people
Guitar Srings	Martin Extra Light Strings	To replace the inevitable broken strings
Batteries	Triple As for Headlamp	Essential
Hygiene	Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper	Essential
Matches	Waterproof Matches	More reliable and safe than a lighter