

Pacific Crest Trail Gear

Clothing	Item	Comments
Hiking Boots	Vasque Breeze GTX 2.0's	Love these boots. Used them nearly every day to train during MD's wet winter, and feet stay dry even when stepping into puddles. Breathable enough for warm weather, too
Merino Wool Socks	Smartwool PHD Outdoor Ultralight Crew Socks (2 pairs)	Used during the day, dry very quickly, great when used in a rotation
Merino Wool Socks	Smartwool PHD Outdoor Heavy Crew Socks (1 pairs)	Used during cold nights, very warm
Gaiters	North Face Nylon Gaiters	Keep boots/feet dry when walking in puddles or snow, prevents rocks and debris from getting into my boot
Polyester Baselayer Top	North Face Kilowatt 1/4 Zip	Extra-durable fabric on shoulders and elbows great for long-term use
Polyester Baselayer Bottom	Columbia Thermal Baselayer	Sweat-wicking, warm, and generally maneuverable
Polyester Underwear	NordiicTrack from Sears	Cheap and comfortable
Nylon Longsleeve Shirt	North Face Longsleeve Cool Horizon Woven	Very breathable, quick drying, and ultralight. Pen holder and zipper on chest pocket are useful
Nylon Pants	Horizon II Cargo Pants	Lightweight and breathable and coated with Durable-Water-Resistant finish. Wish they were convertible, though
Synthetic Insulated Jacket	North Face Thermoball Full-zip Jacket	Warm when wet because of Primaloft synthetic insulation, but very compressible like down.
Rain Shell Jacket	North Face Alpine Project Jacket	GoreTex Active Shell is ultralight, ultrabreathable, and also ultra-expensive. Working at the North Face got me this \$380 jacket for around \$100
Rain Shell Pants	North Face Venture Pants	Effective, lightweight rain protection. Zippers go up the side of the leg and allow me to put on and take off the rain pants without taking off my boots.
Water-proof Brimmed Hat	North Face HyVent Hiker Hat	Will keep sun off me in the desert and rain off me in the mountains. Worried it might be too warm, though. If so, will trade for runners cap.
Polyester Bandana	Cut from an old sweat-wicking shirt	Multi-purpose piece of gear- used to cover my face when it's cold and windy, and on the back of my neck when exposed to the sun. Keeps neck cool when wet

Walmart Polyester, Polyurethane Coated Gloves	MaxTouch Gloves	Very cheap, strong grip for trekking poles and can use my smartphone while wearing. Sprayed Durable-Water-Resistant spray on them to delay getting wet hands. Not very warm
Sunglasses	Cheap-o Walmart wrap-around shades	Sure, I look like Willy Wonka when I wear them, but they function essentially like goggles and cover a lot of my face from the sun

Packing/Storage	Item	Comments
Backpack	Mountainsmith Ghost 50L	Dream Backpack. Ultra-Durable, and allows air to flow between back and frame. Mesh pockets are prone to ripping, though. Nothing needle and thread can't fix
Backpack Cover	REI 60L Pack Cover	Keeps pack dry. A wet pack is a heavy pack
Stuff Sack	North Face Stuff Sack	Came with Sleeping Bag
Map Case	SealLine Waterproof Map Case	Strong clear vinyl protects my maps from damage, and attaches easily to my backpack with a carabiner
Trash Bag	Clear Contractor Trash Bags	Very strong, waterproof, and can see my gear through it. Doubles as a tent-floor liner during heavy, prolonged rain
Storage	Quart and Gallon Sized Ziplock bags	Used for storing and waterproofing just about everything, like food, electronics, etc.
Storage	Canon Camera Case	Cut out all the insulation with scissors to cut the weight in half

Sleeping	Item	Comments
Down Sleeping Bag	North Face Hightail 2S	850 fill down makes for very compressible, 35-degree rated bag
Closed Cell Sleeping Pad	Therm-a-Rest Z-lite SOL	Ultralight and thermally efficient

Shelter	Item	Comments
Tent	North Face MICA Fast/Light 1-person Tent	Tall enough to sit up in, and large vestibule makes cooking food simple.
Ground Cloth	Matching Ground Cloth	Have to buy separately

Eating/Drinking	Item	Comments
Pot/Cup	GSI Pinnacle Soloist	Perfect
Utensil	REI Spoon/Knife/Fork Utensil	Plastic utensil has a serrated edge on the fork for cutting
Alcohol Stove	Homemade Fancy Feast Can Alcohol Stove	Cat food can with holes punched around rim. See Andrew Skurka's youtube video
Windscreen	Tin Windscreen	Strong enough to reuse over and over, light and foldable so it can fit in my pot
Water Purification Tablets	MSR Aquatabs	Have not yet used

Water Bladder/Bottles	(2) Platypus 2L PlatyBottles	My favorite new piece of gear. Collapsible Nylon/Polyethylene bottles, coupled with separately purchased hydration tube and snap caps effectively replace my need for a camelbak and nalgene bottle at a fraction of the weight and space
Snacks	Erin Baker's Endurance Granola, Clif Bars, Bobo's Oat Bars, Zing Nutrition Bars	All have over 100 calories per ounce and are dense enough to make packing easy. Will be eating 6-7 snacks a day rather than 3 square meals to keep energy levels high and rest time minimal
Dinners	Kraft Mac N' Cheese, Ronzini Garden Delight Pasta, Bisquik Complete	Very cheap, high in calories, and can make with only water. I'll have a little olive oil with me for the macaroni and pasta though for taste and added calories
Restaurant Food	Fast food, diner, buffet, smorgasbord, etc.	Sometimes you just need to satisfy your cravings, and even with my plan of eating 4,000+ calories a day, I will still lose weight at an unhealthy pace if I don't stop for a real meal every once in a while
Water	Water	1 gallon weighs 8 pounds, usually carry 1-2 depending on my pace and the distance to the next reliable source

Electronics	Item	Comments
Cell Phone	Iphone 4S	Allows me to maintain my blog, listen to music or audiobooks, and keep in touch with friends and family
Solar Panels/ Rechargeable Battery	Power Traveller Powermonkey Extreme	Another favorite piece of gear. Solar Panels broke and were replaced for free. External Battery will charge my phone up to 5 full times
Camera	Canon Powershot SX510HS	Compact, 12.1 megapixels, HD film, 30x optical zoom, and wifi compatibility. Awesome camera.
Cables	Assorted Cables and Chargers	Electronics would be useless without power
Headlamp	Black Diamond Storm	Waterproof, 160 lumens, dim and red-light setting for maintaining night vision. Can be set at different angles to keep your neck from getting sore when using hands right in front of you
Miscellaneous	Item	Comments
First-Aid Kit	Gauze, Antibiotic, Band-aids, Moleskin	Needed, but never used
Crampons	Kahtoola KTS Steel Crampons	Beasts on ice, hard snow. May need in higher elevations on steep, snow covered slopes.

Trekking Poles	Komperdell Trailmasters	Reduces load on knees and feet by allowing arms to do part of the work. Compactability is nice when I want strap them to my pack and pull out the guitar
Musical Instrument	Martin Backpacker Guitar	Helps me maintain my sanity and remain creative. Also a great way to meet people or make money on the street
Guitar Srrings	Martin Extra Light Strings	To replace the inevitable broken strings
Tripod	Vivitar Tripod	Allows me to film myself
Knife	Small Swiss Army knife	Classic backpacking/camping tool
Writing	Journals, Pens	For myself and for the blog
Camp Towel	Cascade Designs Pack Towl	Cut in half to save space and weight
Batteries	Triple As for Headlamp	Essential
Hygiene	Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Toilet Paper	Essential
Matches	Waterproof Matches	More reliable and safe than a lighter
Multi-function compass	Compass/Whistle/Thermometer/Magnifying Glass	Picked up this neat piece of gear from the Walmart camping section. Smaller than my thumb and packed with useful tools
Emergency Blanket	Standard Walmart Emergency Blanket	Just in case
Rope	550 Parachute Cord	For hanging my food in trees to keep the bears from getting to it
Sunscreen	Whatever I can find locally	Will buy the travel-sized container