



TriEdge.net

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Product Review

Featuring: Viper 4

URL: <http://tinyurl.com/67qdrsu>



I love the dry heat of Utah. I'd rather live here than pretty much anywhere else. Even during the 95°-105° month of July. The only problem is that I sweat and get dehydrated really fast in this heat, especially if I'm working hard on my training. I've used hydration packs for years when I go mountain biking and have recently started using them when hiking and backpacking as well. We've had the chance to test out a few hydration packs here at Triedge over the past few months. Below are three of our favorites.

Osprey Viper 4: The lightest of the bunch and our favorite for a simple running hydration pack. It holds 2 liters of water or your favorite electrolyte/fuel concoction. You can squeeze a lightweight rain shell in the pack or use the elastic compression straps like I do to secure it to the pack. The lightly padded back panel provided just enough cushion to make it comfortable without adding any unnecessary weight to this streamlined pack. Moveable chest straps help this to fit a number of body sizes, making it very comfortable no matter who you are. There is also a small waist strap to keep the pack cinched in close so you don't have to deal with it flopping around as you work up the trail.



Its quality is what you'd expect from a big pack name like Osprey. Months after getting this pack it shows no signs of wear. Constructed out of 210 double ripstop nylon and 600D polyester, this thing will handle all the abuse you can throw at it. The 2L hydration bladder works great. It has never leaked and is filled via a 3" wide opening. This worked great for those hot days when I needed to load the bladder full of ice and water. The bite valve is similar to most bite valves, bite and suck and it works. It didn't leak when not in use. One thing that Osprey did to really impress and a feature that I miss on every other hydration pack now is the magnet on the bite valve that sticks to the magnet on the chest strap. No more clip or tucking the tube into a strap to keep it from flopping all over. Genius! If you need a hydration pack, but don't need to carry much you should seriously consider the Osprey Viper 4.

