



Mountain Bike Action

October 2013

MBA Field Test

Featuring: Raptor 10

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MBA TECH

MBA FIELD TEST

MBA FIELD TEST RATING

★★★★★ Perfection
 ★★★★★ Delivers above-average value and performance
 ★★★★★ Recommended for intended application
 ★★★★★ Shows potential but has drawbacks
 ★★★★★ Save your hard-earned bucks

OSPREY RAPTOR 10 PACK

★★★★☆
The hydrated handyman's pack

Osprey is a small company that's very serious about the environment we all enjoy, whether hiking, climbing or, in our case, biking through it. They're committed to treading lightly on the planet and are careful to follow environmentally sustainable and green business practices. That's all well and good, but the wrecking crew judges products based on whether they actually work. Fortunately, Osprey is also serious about the performance and durability of their packs. In fact, the company claims they will repair or replace any damaged or defective product, whether you bought it in 1974, when Osprey was founded, or yesterday.

Tech features: The Raptor line is Osprey's premium collection of hydration packs. They're available in three sizes, designed for everything from quick, 1 1/2-hour rides all the way up to all-day epics. Our Raptor 10 pack falls right in the middle, sporting 610 cubic inches of storage and a 3-liter reservoir. The pack also features Osprey's ErgoPull hip belt, which is designed to take the load off your shoulders and spread it more effectively across your back. The pack features too many pockets to list one by one, yet there is still room for a removable, rollout tool pouch that zips at the bottom of the pack. For safety, the pack also features reflective graphics and a loop to attach a rear blinker light. Osprey packs can be purchased through any reputable bike shop or through their online store. The Raptor 10 weighs 1.4 pounds dry and empty and sells for \$120.

Field test results: Osprey drastically overestimates the amount of gear required for a medium-length ride. The Raptor is a serious pack. If you're planning to do all-day epics, this pack is definitely big enough. The smaller Raptor 6 offers most of the best features of the Raptor 10 and is less bulky. While we never needed more storage than the Raptor 10 offers, the additional real estate of the larger Raptor 14 would prove invaluable

Pack it in: Osprey's Raptor packs are serious about storage capacity. Their pockets and compartments are well thought out and will keep even the most

Pack it out: This nifty little gizmo allows a helmet to be secured to the outside of the pack for long and hot climbs.

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 Our favo...
 wearing the pack for a few rides. The fit is remarkably ergonomic and doesn't make you feel like there's a monkey riding on your back, ready to choke you at any moment. The Raptor is very comfortable and breathable. The hip straps keep the load well distributed and are much slimmer than those on other hip packs we've used, which keeps you from snagging tree branches or feeling like you've packed low handles for the duration of the ride. The magnetic hose

Bottom line, Osprey makes a great pack, and they make a size for every type of riding. While Osprey offers plenty of smaller packs, the Raptor 10 is the perfect size for the rider who feels most confident when carrying everything he might need. □

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