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Gift Guide: Top 25 Picks in Outdoor Gear & Apparel

Featuring: Xenith 88 and Xena 85

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## GIFT GUIDE: TOP 25 PICKS IN OUTDOOR GEAR & APPAREL

Looking for a gift idea for a hiker, backpacker, climber, skier... or maybe something special to suggest to someone shopping for you? I test a lot of adult and children's outdoor gear and apparel every year for Backpacker Magazine and to review in this blog, and friends and readers [ask me](#) regularly for advice on buying gear.

So here's my annual list of my top 25 favorite new pieces of outdoor gear and apparel—with links to my original reviews of these packs, boots, tents, jackets, and other gear—plus a new backcountry food my entire family loves, and a terrific book for traveling families. If you're dreaming of big adventures in 2014, get busy prepping your gear for it.

Got a huge load to carry? The [Osprey Xenith 88](#) and women's [Xena 85](#) are my top choices for hauling over 50 pounds.

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