



Climbing

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Gear: Field Notes

Featuring: Mutant 38

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Field Notes

The latest and greatest from our diligent testers
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→ FULL-FEATURED ALPINE PACK

Osprey Mutant 38

"Tons of features in a well-designed, lightweight, comfortable, versatile package," one tester said of the updated Mutant 38 after three months of ice and mixed climbing in Germany and the Colorado Rockies.

"Remove the lid and extra straps to go minimalist, or add everything for maximum organization." An integrated FlapJacket closure system on top of the pack buckles down over the lidless top to protect the drawstring-only closure from weather, which our tester raved about after experiencing a near-blizzard on a long ice route in Rocky Mountain National Park. Two large, accessible gear loops and six ice-clipper slots on the waistbelt made gear easy to reach when climbing with the pack on. Testers lauded the ultra-burly, can't-rip-it 210-denier nylon outer that took tons of abuse from sharp ice, errant crampon kicks, and abrasive rock. Fully featured it weighs in at just under 2.5 lbs., or you can take the framesheet out, lid off, and strip it down to just over 1.5 lbs. Simple ice tool attachments and an A-frame ski carry system round out the winter-friendly extras. \$160; ospreypacks.com

