

## Denali Mountaineering Equipment List

The weather in Alaska can be volatile. Clothing systems need to be capable of meeting the demands of an ever-changing environment. A layering system, which allows articles of clothing to be added or subtracted as the weather changes, has proven most versatile. The clothing items listed below will layer together to provide appropriate insulation in the most demanding conditions. Materials used in clothing should keep you warm even if they become wet. Synthetics such as polypropylene, Capilene, Synchronia, fleece, and pile are best, wool will also work. Cotton is unacceptable. Please test out your gear before you arrive in Alaska.

If you own any of the following “provided” personal gear, we encourage you to bring it to your trip. This will allow you to become proficient with the gear you will continue to use post trip.

### Upper Body Layers

Upper body layers are some of the most important components of a good layering system. They should be comfortable, lightweight and breathable. Cotton is unacceptable, except for a sun shirt while hiking on warm days.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Base Layers	2		One silk weight and one heavy weight top made of synthetic material that can be layered together to increase warmth. A light-colored silk weight (white/tan/light blue, etc.) is a good idea because it will decrease the amount of solar radiation (warmth) that your shirt absorbs. Conversely, your mid-weight base-layers should be darker so that they do absorb the sun's warmth. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> makes good lightweight, wicking base layers.	-
Tee Shirt	1		To be worn as a sun shirt while hiking at lower elevations. Synthetic fabric is the way to go.	-
Medium Weight Top	1		To be worn over the base layers and should be synthetic or wool (a soft shell is an acceptable substitute). Both <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> and <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> offer great mid-weight layers.	-
Heavy Weight Top	1		To be worn over the base layers and medium weight top and should be synthetic or wool. Both <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> and <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> make nice thick layers.	-
Expedition Down Parka	1		In a high altitude climate in the mountains, a burly down parka with insulated hood will be your best friend on those bitter cold nights or windy summit mornings. It should easily fit over all layers. A down jacket with a water proof finish is better, because it will keep your down from getting wet. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> makes a great down jacket. Please don't hesitate to call us before making any major purchases.	YES
Outer Wear	1		A jacket made of waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex is vital for keeping you warm and dry. It needs to fit over all layers. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware shells</a> are breathable, dry, and windproof.	-

In Alaska and the world's great ranges!

1.800.766.3396  
WWW.ALASKAMOUNTAINGUIDES.COM





## Lower Body Layers

Lower body layers should be versatile and easy to change into and out of under changing weather conditions.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Base Layers	2		One silk weight and one heavy weight bottom layer made of synthetic material that can be layered together to increase warmth.	-
Underwear	2-4 pairs		Synthetic briefs and underwear are best.	-
Fleece or Synthetic Pants	1		These should be either fleece or synthetic down. If the pants have side zips, it will make life a lot easier by allowing you to easily remove this layer. We recommend the <a href="#">Mountain Hardware Compressor Pant</a> or the <a href="#">Black Diamond Stance Belay Pant</a> .	-
Soft Shell Pants	1		A pant made of Schoeller fabric or similar material that is quick to dry would work well. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> makes great pants.	-
Hard Shell Pants	1		Waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex are vital for keeping you warm and dry. They need to fit over all layers and should have side zips. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> shell pants work great.	-

## Head, Neck, Hands & Feet

Keeping your extremities warm & dry is crucial. We lose a massive percentage of body heat through our heads, and our hands and feet are the most susceptible to inconveniences like frostbite and trench-foot. Developing a system that works for your specific needs takes time; this guide is a good place to start.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Warm-Hat	2		Should be made of synthetic material or wool, cotton is unacceptable. Should layer underneath a climbing helmet. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> has a wide selection of warm hats.	-
Sun-Hat	1		The sun can be very bright, the more protection your cap offers from the sun, the better.	-
Balaclava or Neoprene Face Mask	1		Used to protect the face from wind/snow, and can be a real life-saver under stormy conditions. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> has a great series of face masks and balaclavas.	-
Goggles	1		Double lens models with vents work best. <a href="#">POC</a> makes great goggles.	-
Sunglasses	2		Dark lenses with wrap around protection are a must. The sun can be very bright, especially with reflection off the snow/ice. A spare pair of glasses is strongly recommended. <a href="#">Julbo</a> makes excellent glasses.	-
Light Weight Gloves	1		Windstopper fleece works best. Work gloves with a water proof palm are nice to have along when dexterity is more important than warmth. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> and <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> gloves are great.	-
Heavy Weight Gloves/Mitts	1		Removable shell is a must. These should be warm, water-proof and breathable, with removable liners for easy drying. <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> and <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> have durable shell gloves.	-
Expedition Mittens	1		Warm and waterproof expedition over mittens with a removable liner will keep your hands warm on summit day. <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> and <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> have toasty expedition mitts.	-

In Alaska and the world's great ranges!

1.800.766.3396  
 WWW.ALASKAMOUNTAINGUIDES.COM





Socks	3-4		These should be synthetic or wool. Having a mix of light and heavy weight socks is nice to adjust to variable weather.	-
Mountaineering Boots	1		Plastic boots with a removable liner work best because they are easy to dry out and extremely warm. They also need to be fully crampon compatible. <a href="#">Koflach</a> , <a href="#">Scarpa</a> or <a href="#">La Sportiva</a> all make good boots.	YES
Overboots	1		For adding extra warmth. Must be crampon compatible. <a href="#">40 Below</a> is a great source for overboots.	-
Gaiters	1		These should fit over your mountaineering boots. They should be tall and abrasion resistant. <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> gaiters work well.	-

### Technical Hardware

For technical gear we recommend [Black Diamond](#). We run their equipment on every mountain trip we operate, and find it to be among the best in the industry. For tents and sleeping bags we recommend [Sierra Designs](#).

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Backpack	1		Should have a capacity of at least 5,000 cubic inches (or 80 liters), and should be comfortable with 60 lbs. of weight. <a href="#">Mountain Hardware</a> and <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> packs are versatile and rugged. Please don't hesitate to call us before making any major purchases.	YES
Trekking poles	1		Lightweight and adjustable length work best. Snow baskets are a must. <a href="#">Black Diamond poles</a> are a great fit.	YES
Lightweight Harness	1		Should fit over all layers and be comfortable when wearing a pack. Adjustable leg loops are best. The <a href="#">Alpine Bod</a> harness is an ideal harness for mountaineering.	Provided
Crampons	1		Light weight, sturdy, and easily adjustable are best. The <a href="#">Black Diamond Sabretooth</a> works well.	Provided
Snowshoes	1		<a href="#">MSR</a> makes sturdy and durable snowshoes. We use these at lower elevations to stay above the snow and disperse weight on crevasses.	Provided
Avalanche Transceiver	1		Transceivers must use the 457 kHz frequency. Equipment rental is available. Consider the <a href="#">Pieps DSP pro</a> .	YES
Ice Axe	1		Should be light weight. The <a href="#">Raven</a> is a classic.	Provided
Locking Carabineers	2		Large aluminum locking carabineers (such as the <a href="#">Black Diamond Rock lock</a> ) are used on your harness for glacier travel and technical climbing.	Provided
Non-locking Carabiners	4		Oval or lightweight wire gate carabiners used for glacier travel and technical climbing systems. We use <a href="#">Black Diamond Carabiners</a>	Provided
6mm Cord	20 ft.		6mm accessory cord used for tying prussic knots.	Provided
Ascenders	2		<a href="#">Black Diamond</a> ascenders or a <a href="#">Petzl</a> tibloc are great for ascending/descending fixed lines and crevasse rescue.	-
Helmet	1		Should be light weight and rated for rock climbing/ mountaineering. The <a href="#">Black Diamond Vector</a> or <a href="#">Half Dome</a> are great options.	Provided

In Alaska and the world's great ranges!

1.800.766.3396  
 WWW.ALASKAMOUNTAINGUIDES.COM





## Sleeping Bag & Pads

Having a good sleep system is essential in the mountains. Down bags offer unparalleled warmth and packability.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Sleeping bag	1		-40F bags are required for May trips, -20F will suffice later in the season. <a href="#">Mountain Hardwear</a> bags work well. Please don't hesitate to call us before making any major purchases.	YES
Sleeping pads	2		A system of one compact inflatable pad ( <a href="#">Thermarests</a> work well) and one closed cell foam pad works best to insulate when sleeping on snow.	YES

## Miscellaneous

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Passport	1		For our international guests – Please call us for information about travel to the US	-
Watch	1		Should have an alarm feature.	-
Personal Mess Kit	-		Bowl & Spoon as well as a 14oz mug with a lid for hot drinks.	-
Headlamp	1		Climbers may find this useful for May trips, once we're into summer season there is enough daylight that we won't need headlamps. <a href="#">Petzl Tikka</a> is a great choice due to its size.	-
Personal Med-Kit	1		A personal prescription of a broad-spectrum antibiotic like Ciprofloxacin or Azithromycin is REQUIRED. High altitude medications; Diamox and Dexamethasone are also required. Don't forget to bring any other medications you are prescribed. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call us.	-
Blister Kit	1		This should include mole skin/foam and cloth athletic tape for personal use.	-
Lip Balm	1-2		Should have some type of SPF protection.	-
Sunscreen	4-8oz.		Should be SPF 30 or higher and be waterproof.	-
Water Bottles	2		Wide mouth 1-liter Lexan bottles ('Nalgene') work best.	-
Bottle Insulation	1-2		An insulated neoprene sleeve to keep your water from freezing.	-
Stuff Sacks	2-4		For organizing your gear inside of your backpack. Consider using compression sacks for both your sleeping bag and clothes to maximize usage of space. <a href="#">Sea to Summit</a> makes great waterproof stuff sacks.	-
Garbage & Ziploc bags	Assortment		An invaluable method used to keep your gear dry inside of your pack. (Line your stuff sack with a garbage bag before you stuff your sleeping bag in there).	-

In **Alaska** and the **world's great ranges!**

1.800.766.3396  
WWW.ALASKAMOUNTAINGUIDES.COM





Optional				
Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Summit Pack	-		Used on day excursions, should be between 35L - 55L (many people use their big pack for this purpose). Both <a href="#">Mountain Hardwear</a> and <a href="#">Black Diamond</a> offer some great climbing packs in this range.	-
Camp Booties	1 pair		A good pair of synthetic fill camp booties will keep your feet warm and dry after big days in winter environments. <a href="#">Sierra Designs</a> makes a great goose-down version with a rubberized bottom.	-
Hand Warmers	4		A good thing to keep in your pack for those brisk alpine starts.	-
Sleeping Bag Liner	1		For increased warmth.	-
Pee Bottle	1		1-liter wide-mouth Lexan with a SECURE LID. Nice to have when there is really inclement weather outside.	-
Energy/Candy Bars	0-20		A small personal snack supply will help keep moral high!	-
Moist Towelettes	0-20		This will be as close to a shower as you will get, we recommend one wipe per day.	-
Book	1		Something light and easy to pack. Kindle devices are a great alternative to hard copies.	-
Journal	1		<a href="#">‘Rite in the Rain’</a> or similar water resistant paper work best.	-
Camera	1		A small compact digital camera works best. The cold will want to drain batteries quicker than normal. Bring an extra memory card and batteries.	-

### Additional Information



We use gear from these select companies on every trip we run! Their gear has proven itself again and again on the highest mountains, roughest water, and steepest ice. We endorse these companies because they make gear that is functional and reliable.

**We provide the following for all Denali Expeditions:**

Tents, group climbing equipment, expedition first aid kits, cooking equipment, and trip food.

Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions 1.800.766.3396

**In Alaska and the world's great ranges!**

1.800.766.3396  
 WWW.ALASKAMOUNTAINGUIDES.COM

