
CASPAR MCKEEVER MOUNTAINEERING

ITEM

Socks Go for a medium to thick pair of synthetic or wool/synthetic blend socks. Potentially with a linear sock.

Thermal/ Base Layers A thermal or wicking top is far better than cotton. In winter in particular, cotton is to be avoided.

Fleeces At least one fleece layer for your upper body. If you get cold easily perhaps add a fleece/gilet/vest to your layering. Having an extra fleece top or synthetic layer in a waterproof liner at the bottom of your rucksack is always recommended.

Windshirt or lightweight softshell jacket Ideal for dry conditions.

Thermal Leggings/ Long Johns Long Johns or leggings made of wool or other thermal materials are fantastic for cold days. Either as a single layer under waterproof trousers, or combined with your walking trousers.

Walking trousers Polyester or softshell is ideal.

Warm Hat & Gloves A warm hat is essential. For Scottish winter it is best to have at least 2 or 3 pairs of warm gloves. Waterproof gloves tend to be better, but all gloves get wet eventually so quantity is the most important thing.

Waterproof jacket and over trousers Lightweight waterproofs are ok but tend to get damaged easily in winter. The trousers should have at least a knee length zip enabling them to be fitted over boots.

Rucksack A medium volume sac (30 -40 litres) is best for mountaineering and climbing. Use a strong plastic rucksack liner or dry bag to keep the contents dry. External rucksack covers have a habit of blowing away and don't work as well as an internal liner. Everything needs to fit inside your bag.

Bivvy Bag A large person sized poly or foil survival bag is the minimum requirement, essential but for emergency use.

Gaiters Useful, particularly for protecting your waterproofs from crampons.

Head Torch Make sure you have a functioning headtorch with batteries.

First Aid kit	A small personal pack including personal medication and blister plasters. Sunglasses if good forecast.
Compass/ Map	OS or BMC/Harvey. The map should be weather-proofed in a clear plastic map case or laminated.
Whistle/ Watch	
Waterbottle	1 Litre. A flask of hot drink can be very nice in winter
Lunch & Spare Food	Enough for a full day on the hill; preferably with snacks you can pull out of a pocket easily.
Trekking Poles	These are optional, but useful particularly in descent.
Boots	For winter skills and mountaineering, boots which have good lateral stiffness such as B1 or B2 rated boots are absolutely fine. For winter climbing B3 boots are best.
Helmet	Please bring one along if you have one. We can provide helmets if needed.
Harness	Please make sure the harness fits over all clothing and can be put on over boots (and crampons). Adjustable leg-loops are preferable for ease of fitting. We can provide a harness if required.
Crampons	For winter skills and mountaineering, C1 or C2 rated crampons are perfect. For winter climbing C2 or C3 crampons are best. The most important thing is that the boots fit the crampons and
Axe/s	For winter skills and mountaineering courses a standard walking axe will be suitable. For winter climbing two technical climbing axes will be more appropriate.
Belay device, two HMS Carabiners and one 120cm sling	We can provide you with these if you don't have your own.



If you have any questions about kit please get in touch and we will be happy to advise.

Kind regards,

Caspar McKeever