

Buying Hiking Gear.

You rarely regret buying the best, so get the best hiking gear that you can afford.
The top gear is well designed and a pleasure to use.

It's cheaper in the long run to buy good hiking gear, and take care of it.

Buy good gear and it will last you for many years.
Buy cheap gear and you will soon be looking for better.

To find out what is the best hiking gear, research...research...research.
Look at many hiker reviews on many websites, until you get a good picture of the pros and cons of the top gear.

Buy light weight gear, but balance this with durability and comfort.
The very lightest hiking gear sometimes sacrifices durability and comfort in getting the weight down.

Always consider the warranty when buying hiking gear.
Certain companies have no-quibble guarantees that make it worthwhile to spend more to purchase their products.
Examples: Osprey Packs, MEC.

Buy gear that meets your realistic needs.
For example, don't buy a -40 degree sleeping bag if you will never go winter camping, and a 3 season -4 degree bag is what you need. That being said, you should buy a good down sleeping bag since you will be spending a lot of time in it.

Be a minimalist when deciding what gear to buy and carry in your pack.
Anything beyond the essentials is excess weight that you will be lugging through the wilderness.
Your pack weight should be about 30 lbs when filled with several days' worth of food and gear.