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Ski Report: Top Winter Sportswear

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Conquer the slopes in style and comfort with the perfect apparel for this snowy and sporty season. To stay toasty all day without losing your flexibility or speed, choose sportswear that melds high-tech features with fashionable styles. These cool (and warm) looks are fit for any lift line.

Editor's Picks



Columbia Omni-Heat® ski jackets



Puffer vest with faux fur trim



Snow bibs for women



UGG sheepskin boots



Snowboard gloves



Oakley ski goggles

Ski Jackets and Vests

Ski jackets need to keep you warm without restricting movement, so look for waterproof shells, fleece linings, Velcro-secured cuffs to keep the powder out and underarm zips to cool you off on warmer days. Sealed seams add durability, and a jacket made with Gore-Tex provides lightweight weatherproofing. If you like the fashion flash of a parka (faux-fur-trimmed hoods are trend-right), consider something short and trim for skiing, or long and more luxe for après-ski. Ski vests may seem like an unnecessary extra, but they add versatility: Wear a down-puffed vest over a simple fleece jacket for spring skiing, or layer it under a heavier jacket for extra insulation during the depths of winter. Contoured-fit vests and lighter jackets work better than bulkier layers if you'll be adding a layer to stay extra-toasty.



Outdoor Research Gore-Tex jackets



Fera insulated ski jackets



Helly Hansen fitted ski jackets



North Face triclimate ski jackets



Marmot insulated ski jackets



Patagonia down ski jackets



Eddie Bauer down ski jackets



Patagonia down vests



Contour fit down vests



Fur trim down ski jackets



Après-ski jackets



Columbia fleece vests

Ski Pants

Your lower half should be as warm as your upper, and your gear should offer just as much freedom of movement. But you don't have to sacrifice sporty sleekness. Ski pants can be waterproof, breathable, properly insulated *and* fiercely fashionable all at once. Slim-fit bottoms are the most flattering, but they're best for milder spring skiing. Articulated knees will help: They provide a full range of motion on both slim- and regular-cut pants. Pairs with side zips are easier to get on and off, while removable suspenders keep your pants from slipping on the slopes. (Snow bibs are a sort of hybrid: Some sport slender shoulder straps, and others look more like a full set of overalls.) If you love carving fresh powder, snow gaiters are a must, and ski pants with vents help you avoid overheating.



Fera ski pants



Salomon ski pants



Slim-fit ski pants



Patagonia ski pants



Ski pants with articulated knees



Burton ski pants



Oakley ski pants



Regular fit ski pants



Spyder ski pants



Side zip ski pants



Ski pants with suspenders



Snow gaiters

Snowboarding Wear

Anyone even casually into either skiing and snowboarding knows that the attire for each can look radically different. Snowboarding wear skews way more casual -- sometimes loud with prints or bright colors, and decidedly *not* sleek. Polartec or fleece jackets make great extra layers under that big, bold snowboarding jacket. This third layer can be insulated with puffy down, water- and wind-proofed with Gore-Tex membranes or sport soft shell construction. Snowboarding pants are cut and styled more like slouchy carpenter pants or jeans, so belting them is essential. They're also decorated as wildly as the jackets are: Big checks and massive plaids abound. Black, khaki and blazing neon hues are popular, too. Obviously these pairs are built tougher, with more durable fabrics and insulating features: Look for 40 grams of insulation when it's *super*-frigid.



North Face insulated jackets



Billabong insulated jackets



BettyRides jackets



Plaid snowboard jackets



Polartec fleece jackets



Burton jackets



Billabong insulated pants



Oakley insulated pants



Burton pants



Hot Chilly's base layers



Facemasks



Beanies

Snow Boots

Be chic on the sleet and get going when it's snowing in a pair of sweet snow boots. Unlike ski boots, this winter footwear can be worn off the slopes and into the lodge for an après-ski cocktail, or down any icy city street in style. Treats for your feet include faux-fur or shearling linings, heavy-duty traction to keep you striding, not sliding, and water-resistant uppers. High-tech fabrics like Gore-Tex and nylon do the job, but so do waterproof suede and leather. Got sensitive soles? Snow boots with orthopedic features like anatomic footbeds, gel inserts and foam memory pads make for an effortless jaunt around Aspen or Telluride. Faux-fur snow cuffs are ultra-trendy, as are quilted shafts and elaborate lace-up fronts. Check out seam-sealed snow boots for the ultimate in durability.



Technica Moon Boots



Columbia snow boots



Kamik waterproof snow boots



Sorel shearling snow boots



Easy Spirit snow boots



Merrell insulated snow boots



Timberland snow boots



Ugg boots



Totes snow boots



Waterproof suede snow boots



Lace-up snow boots



Quilted snow boots

Gloves and Base Layers

You don't want to go shredding or tackle that new downhill run without a few essential extras. Let's talk extremities: ski gloves will keep your hands warm while allowing totally free movement. Score pairs with pre-curved fingers or hinged knuckles, stick-grip palms, belted wrists to keep the slush out, and waterproof rip-stop material to further protect. (Safety leashes are a nice extra if you're prone to losing your gloves on the slopes.) Base layers provide a foundation of warmth and comfort and can be basic and relatively inexpensive. Avoid cotton, which tends to retain moisture, and opt instead for polyester materials such as Coolmax and Polartec. (Merino wool is also a moisture-wicking option if you prefer the natural stuff.) Flat-lock seams feel smooth, and anti-microbial materials reduce odor.



Grandoe ski gloves



Black Diamond gloves with pre-curved fingers



Marmot gloves with hinged knuckles



Gordini gloves with stick-grip palms



Dakine gloves and mittens



Gloves and mittens with safety leashes



Snowboard gloves



Under Armour base layer crews



Under Armour base layer bottoms



PolarMax base layers



Base layers with Polartec



North Face tops

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