



TECH TIPS **FIX FRIED FINGERTIPS** TRAIN FOR STEEP ROUTES
CUT POUNDS FROM YOUR KIT **TIE THIS CRUCIAL KNOT**

Climbing

PREVENT INJURY

HIGH COUNTRY SPECIAL
65 GUIDE-TESTED TIPS

AMERICA'S BEST TRAVERSES
CASCADES, SIERRA, ROCKIES & 'DACKS

GEAR THE KIT

Fully Charged

6 portable power solutions

BY JULIE ELLISON

PUREGEAR POWERBANK

"It slips right into my pocket just like my phone, plus, I can charge mine and my partner's phones at the same time so we can keep taking rad shots of each other," one tester said. The Powerbank is roughly the same size as an iPhone 5 and holds about 40 extra hours of talk time in one charge. Two USB charging ports of varying speeds (a 1 amp "standard" and 2 amp "rapid charge") can power two small devices at once, or use the rapid charge port to refill a tablet. Weighing in at only 6.4 oz., this sleek, small package adds almost negligible weight, and small lights on the unit indicate how much power it has so you don't have to guess. \$60; pure-gear.com

GOAL ZERO FLIP 10 RECHARGER

Minimal fuss for this mini battery pack, which has a built-in USB plug that folds down to make the whole unit compact and streamlined. (This USB plug charges the Flip itself, but you still need a cord for your specific device.) "Keeping up with the many cords and wires for my electronics gives me a headache, so worrying about one less is excellent," one tester said after a month of carrying it from Utah to Texas to Colorado. With 2,600mAh (milliampere-hour, which is a unit of electric charge) of power, this device holds one full charge for a smartphone and can be recharged in about three hours from the wall. Other than the perfect pocket size of the Flip (similar to two tubes of lip balm), testers' favorite feature was the pass-through

charging capability, meaning you can charge the Flip and your phone at the same time. \$30; goalzero.com

BRUNTON REVOLT 9000

ugged is the best adjective for this 12.5 oz. power bank that holds about six smartphone charges in its 9,000mAh lithium cell battery. The Revolt is coated in a silicone shell that protects it from moderate drops (we tested up to about four feet), and Vibrom on the bottom gives it some purchase on slippery surfaces (read: on the dashboard of the car when testers drove down four-wheel-drive roads). Plus,

a small cover over the ports keeps dirt and the occasional water spray out. "The rubber coating and protective door mean I don't have to baby it," one tester said, "which is ideal for climbing's harsh environments." Includes one cable with three options: micro USB, Lightning, and 30-Pin. \$100; brunton.com

COBRA CPP 100

Affordable and portable solar power has been a game changer for outdoor enthusiasts who want to take devices with them, and this puts the energy source and the solar panel into a single lightweight unit. Testers found it hold a little more than three smartphone charges or two tablet charges, and it can be charged from its panel or the wall. Weighing in at 6.2 oz., the CPP 100 is about the size of an iPhone 5 (slightly wider), and a handle allowed testers to hang it for optimal positioning in the sun. (Not big enough for a carabiner,

but testers used a girth-hitched sling.) An LCD meter shows you how much juice is in the unit. \$80; cobra.com

GOAL ZERO YETI 1250

"Life-changing. Long trips will never be the same again!" As the big mamma jamma of portable power, the Yeti 1250 runs everything from a cell phone to a laptop to a mini fridge—yes, you can power a refrigerator with it. It's obviously not pocket-size—it's 103 lbs. and about the size of a big microwave, but one road-tripping tester used this large unit in her van when writing and photographing assignments that took her from Zion to Austin, Texas, powering two laptops, more than two dozen camera battery charges, and even a small blender for smoothies. Charge it from the wall in about 18 hours, or chain it up with Goal Zero's solar panel options so you always have juice as long as the sun is shining. Two large handles

and an included roll cart make moving the unit "easy as a baby." It's quite pricey, but the seemingly endless power is ideal for life on the road. \$1,400; goalzero.com

GREENLIGHT PLANE SUN KING PRO

Powered by an included solar panel or from a wall outlet, this lantern-meets-power source provides three levels of light output, and you can recharge small electronics from it. The easily removable stand allowed testers to configure it in a variety of positions for reading, cooking, or illuminating a whole tent, and a strap on the back was great for hanging the light from a tree. Testers audited the solar charge indicator. ("Why doesn't every solar company do this?"), which uses a digital LED meter to show you on a scale of 1 to 10 how optimized the solar placement is. Each charge provides 45 hours of light. \$45; greenlightplanet.com

