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## Travel / Outdoors

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### Some great gift ideas for outdoor enthusiasts

Only a few weeks remain before Christmas, and for those who have an outdoor lover on their gift list, here are some gifts worth putting...

By **Mark Yuasa**

Seattle Times staff reporter

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Looking for outdoor-related gifts? Here are some to look at: (back row, from left) Funky Colored Flames, Tie Boss Brand rope safety equipment, the Jet Boil portable cooking system, and the Black and Decker Bright Bar; (front row, from left) the BERKLEY Digital 50-pound scale, the Brunton Lamplight Lantern, Trout Fishing in the Pacific Northwest book by Gary Lewis and John Van Vliet, the Sight-Grid Signal Mirror, the Gerber Big Rock Camp Knife, Coghlan's LED Micro Lantern and the Aqua Lung Slingshot fins.

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Only a few weeks remain before Christmas, and for those who have an outdoor lover on their gift list, here are some gifts worth putting under the tree or getting as a stocking stuffer:

**The Jet Boil Personal Cooking System** (\$79.90-\$99.95) is an innovative and backpack-friendly cooking system. Unlike the heavy vacuum bottles and clunky stoves, Jetboil's key lies in coupling heat transfer technology with a design that's easy to use. Plus, it boils two cups of water in a couple minutes.

The compact design (15-ounce weight with 32-ounce capacity) makes for easy storage. Each Jetpower Fuel canister provides ample energy to boil 12 liters or 100 cups of water. Details: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

**A cozy book to read** near the fireplace on the cold winter nights ahead is Trout Fishing in the Pacific Northwest (\$19.99). The book offers anglers more than 300 step-by-step photos that teach important skills and in-depth chapters on trout biology and behavior. The 400-page book is published by Quayside Publishing Group. The book is available at bookstores and online booksellers.

**The Tie Boss Brand instant lock-and-release rope system** makes raising or tying down loads quick, simple and safe. The design easily allows campers to keep food and other items up and away from critters on the ground; hunters can easily hang their big game from a tree; and bikers can raise their bicycles from the clutter of the garage.

The bolt-through design increases strength and prevents the unit from failing during heavy lifting. Other list of uses include tarp and vehicle tie-downs, hauling, and boating and sailing.

The ¼-inch Tie Boss costs \$14.99; the 3/8-inch unit is \$19.99; and for the 3/8-inch tie down with the block and tackle assembly goes for \$49.99. Details: 877-900-2677 or [www.tieboss.com](http://www.tieboss.com).

**SCUBA divers can increase their kick** with the Aqua Lung's Slingshot fins (\$219). Unlike any other fin on the market, these offer increased power and propulsion as well as comfort and custom-fit settings. These fins help propel submerged divers with little effort, saving energy and lengthening your time spent underwater. Details: [www.aqualung.com](http://www.aqualung.com).

**Caught a big fish** and want to know how much it weighs? The BERKLEY Digital Fish Scale (\$17.96) can get the job done. The extremely accurate, water-resistant functions include a 10-weight memory, average and combined weight feature. An auto-off switch maximizes battery life. It weighs fish up to 50 pounds. Details: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

**The easy to carry Thermarest Trail Lite** (\$49.95) insulation pad is the perfect creature comfort to put under the sleeping bag for a restful night in the woods. The compact size (weighs 1 pound, 15 ounces; 20x60 inches) makes it easy to bring along on a campout. Details: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

**Part of the 10 essentials to take on a backpacking adventure** is a signal mirror, and Coghlan's Sight-Grid Signal Mirror (\$12.99) is great for backpacking light, traveling to remote locations, SOS and signaling rescue planes. The shatter-resistant mirror can signal up to 25 miles on a clear day. Plus, it floats in the water. To locate a retailer in your area, go to [www.coghlan.com/search/index.php](http://www.coghlan.com/search/index.php).

**Chatting around a campfire** is a timeless tradition on camping trips, and Funky Colored Flames (\$5.88) by Winlow Products adds a new twist that puts on an impressive colorful light show. The easy to use packet of crystals are environmentally friendly, and is placed directly on top of a campfire. They then start to burn, creating a show of colors that will radiate the fire for about 30 minutes. The small packet is also easier than carrying a Duraflame log on a campout. The product is available at Target or Wal-Mart or online at [www.campingworld.com](http://www.campingworld.com).