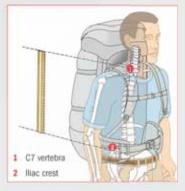
PACK FIT GUIDE



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Fit is the key to proper pack performance. Without the correct fit, none of the features built into a pack—regardless of the manufacturer—will work properly or feel right. Each consumer should be encouraged to take the time necessary to determine proper fit when selecting his or her pack. Consequently, shop employees should read and understand this Pack Fit Guide so they are better able to assist the consumer in the critical fitting process.

STEP ONE: MEASURE THE USER'S TORSO LENGTH

The industry standard definition for torso length is the distance between the top of the iliac crest—the boney spot we commonly refer to when describing our hips—and the center of the C7 vertebra—the largest outward protrusion at the base of the neck, typically in line with the top profile of the shoulders. Once this measurement is determined, the correct pack size can be chosen. Ideally, torso length will fall in the middle of a pack's size-adjustment range for a given size. When a torso length falls at the large end of the range and doubts arise about adequate size, additional pack sizes should be considered.

STEP TWO: DETERMINE THE RIGHT PACK SIZE

Once the torso length has been determined, it is easy to figure out the corresponding pack size. Simply refer to the chart above.

STEP THREE: LOADING THE PACK

The North Face* packs are designed to comfortably carry loads over rugged and extreme terrain. How the contents are loaded within the pack has a great deal to do with the stability and comfort of the load. Ideally, the heaviest objects should be in the lower center of the pack, close to the wearer's back, with progressively lighter items surrounding them. Sleeping bags are usually placed at the bottom, partly because of their relatively light weight, but mostly because of their bulk. Ideally light items go in peripheral pockets, but the need for easy access is the driving factor for placement here. The pack should be as compressed as possible to hold the load closer to the body.

STEP FOUR: FINE-TUNING THE FIT

Before heading out, it is important to fine-tune the fit with small adjustments. Straps should wrap smoothly from the back panel over the shoulder without any gaps. Load-lifting straps should be at a 45-degree angle (relative to horizontal) as they exit the shoulder strap under tension for optimal weight distribution. Hipbelts should fit snugly, with the hipbelt fit zone positioned over the iliac crest.

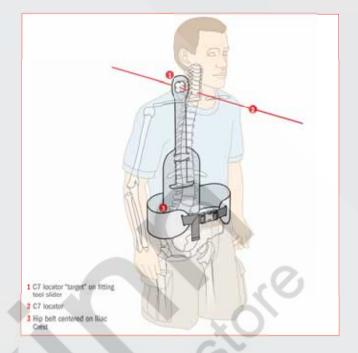
WOMEN'S FIT

Designing a pack specifically for women goes far beyond simply shrinking the men's version. The North Face® goes to great lengths to guarantee a comfortable, functional, non-chafing fit for women. Besides a shorter torso length, our women's packs feature shorter shoulder straps designed to suit narrower shoulders and accommodate a woman's chest. The mesh of the straps is a softer fabric designed for greater comfort when worn with a tank top or sports bra. Overall, our women's packs have softer, rounder lines than the men's, but still provide the same rugged performance.

OPTI FIT™ TECHNOLOGY

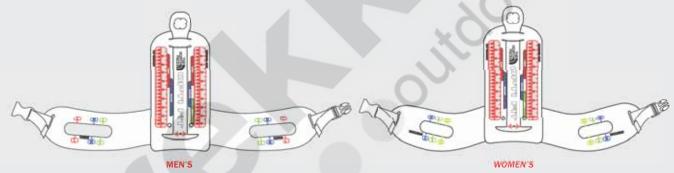
OPTI FIT

A correct fit is essential for large pack performance. All the features in the world don't mean a thing if a pack fits poorly, and with large packs, fit issues are exaggerated. To ensure proper pack fit, The North Face* has made comprehensive revisions to its Opti Fit* pack fit system.



USING THE OPTI FIT™ TOOL

Featured on the updated, classic Crestone and Terra pack families, the Opti Fit™ System is an intuitive, adjustable, easy to-use tool for measuring torso length.



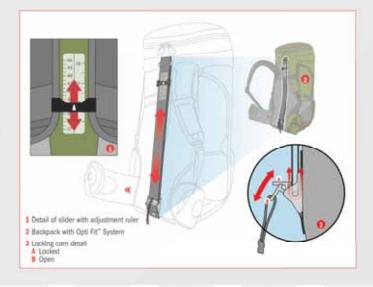
The fit tool is worn like a pack to determine torso length (see below). With the help of a partner, coordinates on the tool are lined up with both the base of the neck and hip, measuring the distance between. With this length determined, one can adjust the pack to match the numbers indicated by the fit tool. Should a user already know his or her torso length, he or she can accurately adjust the pack without using the tool.

ADJUSTING THE PACK

To adjust the pack, a stout cam is released, allowing the shoulder harness to easily slide up or down according to the user's back length. After dialing in the correct setting, the cam is tightened, and the pack is ready to use.

Once torso length is determined, make sure the proper hipbelt is being used. The user's waist should be measured while wearing summer-weight clothing, and belts should be removed for best results.

All classic backpacks from The North Face* have an iliac-crest locator delta (>) on the hipbelt. This represents the starting point for torso length measurement, and it corresponds to the anatomical pocket where the iliac crest is positioned when the pack is properly sized. On the Primeros, El Lobo/Loba and Crestones, the replaceable hipbelts come in three sizes (S, M, L) for men and two (S, M) for women.



EQUIPMENT // WINTER TECHNICAL INTRODUCTION

WINTER TECHNICAL PACKS

PACK TECHNOLOGY. WITH A TWIST.

Uphill skins, epic days and the twisting mechanics of the skier all conspire to demand ultimate versatility and adaptability from ski mountaineer packs. In fall 2009, the North Face® takes its Patrol 35 packs and enhances them with Radial X™ technology so they can better adapt to athletic moves.

The X Radial™ hinged frame pivots to accommodate the thousands of pole plants and ski slides a ski mountaineer needs to make on ascents and the repeated squat-jump-turn movements on the way down.

Packs will are also sport more intuitive features: functionally superior and vastly simplified ski and snowboard attachments. a spacious avalanche tools pocket and a larger skins pocket for wider, fatty skins (think deep powder, snorkel days). Lastly, look for super tough, lightweight and resilient airbag fabric paired with ballistics nylon construction.



VERTICAL SNOWBOARD CARRY SYSTEM

