

Safety Information for Outdoor Gloves

Purpose of outdoor gloves:

- **Outdoor gloves are essential to protect your hands from cold , wind , wetness , injuries and the effects of the weather . They not only provide warmth and protection during various outdoor activities such as hiking , climbing , ski touring or camping , but also grip strength and mobility . To ensure that outdoor gloves fully meet their functionality and safety, certain safety aspects should be considered when selecting, using and caring for them.**
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Important safety aspects when selecting and using outdoor gloves

1. **Choice of material and weather resistance:**
 - Choose outdoor gloves made from **robust , weather-resistant materials** that protect your hands in a variety of conditions. Materials such as **leather , softshell , Gore-Tex and Thinsulate** offer protection against wetness, wind and cold.
 - For **damp or wet environments , choose** waterproof gloves with a **membrane** (e.g. Gore-Tex) to keep your hands dry. **Windproof gloves** are especially beneficial in strong winds and cold to minimize heat loss.
2. **Thermal insulation and temperature regulation:**
 - In cold conditions, look for gloves with **good thermal insulation** , such as **fleece lining , Thinsulate** insulation or **down filling** . These will keep your hands warm without restricting mobility.
 - In moderate temperatures or during sporting activities, you should use **breathable gloves** to minimize the formation of **sweat** and thus the risk of **hypothermia** . **Softshell gloves** or **thinner liner gloves** are ideal when flexibility and ventilation are required.
3. **Protection against injuries:**
 - Outdoor gloves should have **reinforced areas** on the **palms , knuckles** and **fingers** to protect the hands from **abrasion , impact** and **cuts , especially during activities such as climbing , mountain biking or woodworking** .
 - Choose gloves with **non-slip grip zones on the palms or fingers** to ensure a better **grip** on wet or slippery surfaces and to minimize the risk of **injury** from slipping off tools or climbing equipment.
4. **Fit and mobility:**
 - ensure optimal **freedom of movement** and **dexterity** . **Gloves that are too tight can impair circulation** and lead to **sensitivity to cold** or **discomfort** , while gloves that are too large impair **sensitivity** and **grip strength** .
 - For precise work or technical activities, **thin, flexible gloves** that do not restrict **finger mobility** are preferable . **Elastic cuffs** or **Velcro fasteners** ensure that the gloves sit securely on the hands and do not slip.
5. **Special features for outdoor use:**
 - Many outdoor gloves are equipped with **touchscreen-enabled fingertips** so **that you can operate electronic devices** such as smartphones or GPS devices without taking off the gloves and exposing your hands to the cold.

- **Reinforced gloves** with **carabiner loops** or **Velcro fasteners** are particularly practical for securely attaching the gloves to clothing or a backpack when not in use and preventing them from being lost.
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Maintenance and care of outdoor gloves

1. Cleaning and care:

- Follow the **care instructions** on the gloves' label to ensure they are cleaned properly. **Leather gloves** should be treated regularly with **leather conditioners** to keep the leather supple and water-resistant.
- For **Gore-Tex** or **softshell gloves**, it is important to use special **functional detergents** to maintain the water-repellent and breathable properties of the materials. Avoid **fabric softener** as this can impair breathability.

2. Drying and storage:

- Always dry wet gloves at **room temperature** and avoid direct **heat sources** such as heaters or fireplaces as this can damage or deform the materials. **Do not place gloves** on radiators or in the dryer as this can impair functionality, especially with membranes such as Gore-Tex.
- Store gloves in a **dry, cool place** to prevent moisture and mold growth. **Glove clips** or hooks can help keep gloves neatly stored and maintain their shape.

3. Impregnation and maintenance of weather resistance:

- **Waterproof gloves** should be treated regularly with a **waterproofing spray** to maintain the water-repellent layer. This is especially important for **leather gloves** and gloves with membranes, which can lose their waterproofness due to moisture and wear.
- Make sure **seams** and **Velcro fasteners** remain intact, as leaks can allow water to enter. Damaged gloves should be repaired or replaced promptly to maintain full protection.

4. Check for wear:

- Check your outdoor gloves regularly for **wear** or **damage**, especially on the **palms, fingertips** and **seams**. Gloves with **tears, holes** or heavily worn areas no longer offer adequate protection and should be repaired or replaced.
 - Make sure that **buckles, Velcro fasteners** and **elastic cuffs** are functional to ensure the gloves fit snugly.
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Safety rules when using outdoor gloves

1. Adaptation to the activity and environment:

- Choose gloves that suit the **conditions** and **requirements** of your activity. For **winter activities**, you should wear well-insulated gloves that are **windproof and waterproof**, while for **sports activities**, breathable gloves should be preferred.
- When performing **precise work** or technical activities such as **climbing, ski touring** or **cycling**, choose gloves that offer **grip** and **sensitivity** to ensure safety when handling equipment.

2. Protection from cold and wetness:

- Always wear **waterproof** and **insulated gloves in cold** or **wet conditions** to avoid **hypothermia** and **chilblains** . Make sure the gloves are warm enough without restricting **finger mobility** .
 - Avoid wearing **wet gloves** as these transmit the cold and can cool your hands more quickly. Change gloves when necessary and carry **spare gloves** with you on tours lasting several days.
3. **Preventing injuries and accidents:**
- Outdoor gloves should fit well and not be too loose to avoid **injuries** caused by **slipping** or **getting caught on obstacles or equipment**.
 - Make sure the gloves have **safety features** such as **reinforced palms** or **non-slip coatings** to make it easier to **grip** and **hold** objects or tools and reduce the risk of **injury from slipping**.
4. **Visibility and safety in the dark:**
- When doing activities at **dusk** or in **poor visibility**, wear gloves with **reflective elements** or in **bright colors** to increase your **visibility** , especially **when hiking, ski touring or cycling in traffic**.
 - If your gloves do not have reflective elements, you should add **reflective bands** or wear them in combination with **reflective clothing** to avoid accidents.
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Summary:

Outdoor gloves are essential for protecting your hands from **the elements** , **cold** , **wetness** and **injuries during outdoor activities** . **When choosing, make sure you choose weatherproof** , **insulating** and **breathable materials** that meet the requirements of your activity. A good **fit** , **mobility** and **grip** increase comfort and safety. Regular **care** and **maintenance** of the gloves ensure that they retain their protective functions and longevity.