Winter Camping Equipment List

Try to pack all equipment into your backpack with room to spare. Avoid bringing several pieces of baggage. Plan your clothes so they can be worn over each other in layers so that in the coldest of weather possible at this time of year (-30°F) you are wearing nearly all your clothes. Wool or synthetic fabrics are best since they stay warm when wet. Remember, this is camping; bring durable, not dress clothes.

GROUP GEAR:

___ Pulk(s) (sled) - if conditions permit
___ Maps & compasses
___ Shovel(s)
___ First Aid Kit
___ Resource books and field guides
___ Ground cloth
___ Repair kit
___ Stove(s) w/ fuel
___ Ski wax kit
___ Matches
___ Kitchen utensils
___ Tents
___ Food

YOU BRING:

FOOTWEAR:

___ 4 to 6 Pairs Socks: must be wool or other synthetic fibers - no cotton!
___ Gaiters - Leggings worn over the top of the boot to protect from snow.
___ Insulated camp boots (1 pr) - ie. sorels, iceman, mukluks, etc.
___ Ski boots (1 pr) - Should fit comfortably with two pairs of heavy socks. Proper fit is very important.
___ Vapor barrier baggies or socks & foot powder (optional)
___ Polypropylene sock liners - help keep feet dry

LOWER BODY CLOTHING:

___ Regular underwear - nylon shorts work - cotton is bad
___ Long underwear - mid-weight - wool, polypro, thermax, capilene.
___ Wool pants (2 pr: 1 light, 1 heavy) - Should be roomy enough for freedom of movement and layering. Pile, fleece or other synthetic materials are good.
___ Wind pants - Nylon (not waterproof) or Gore-Tex type material to fit over wool or pile pants.

UPPER BODY CLOTHING:

___ Winter coat - covers other layers loosely - for inactive evenings
___ Insulation layers: You will have two insulation layers that should fit comfortably over each other. Combinations of the following are acceptable:
___ Wool sweater - must extend below the hips
___ Light wool shirt
___ Pile or fleece sweater or jacket
___ Long underwear top - wool, polypro, thermax, capilene
___ Vest - synthetic, not down, is recommended

HAND CLOTHING:

___ “Choppers” or other mittens - shell with wool or fleece liners are best
___ Polypro glove liners - keep hands dry and can be used for manipulation of items without direct skin contact.
HEAD CLOTHING:
___ Wool stocking hat - balaclava is also good
___ Scarf or neck gaiter - should be wool or fleece
___ Insulated hood

SLEEPING GEAR:
___ Sleeping bag with rating down to -30 F - Synthetic is recommended (fiberfill, polarguard, holofill, quallofill, etc). Two bags in combination work very well.
___ Sleeping pad - must be closed cell or “therma-rest” type - necessary for insulation between sleeping bag and ground.
___ Sleeping bag stuff sac
___ Ground cloth - waterproof nylon sheet that goes between sleeping bag and ground to prevent moisture absorption.

MISCELLANEOUS:
___ Bandanna
___ Sunglasses - good quality is necessary - side shields are necessary for mountain activities.
___ Sunblock and lip balm w/ S.P.F. of 20 - 40
___ Eating utensils - unbreakable: insulated cup, bowl, spoon.
___ Water bottle (1 qt.) - wide mouth nalgene plastic
___ Candles - 2 plumber’s candles to light snow shelter (optional)
___ Toiletries: toothbrush & paste, etc.
___ Pocket knife

BACKPACK AND OTHER PACKS:
___ Frame pack - Internal frame packs are best because they keep weight close to the body. External frame packs create less stability. Should provide enough space for more than just your personal gear.
___ Day pack - for day outings.
___ Lash straps - to tie gear onto packs
___ Stuff sacks - to organize items in your pack

TRAVELLING EQUIPMENT:
___ Backcountry touring skis and bindings OR Snowshoes
___ Ski poles

OPTIONAL GEAR:
___ Camera and film
___ Head lamp or flashlight with spare bulb and batteries
___ Small closed cell pad for sitting on
___ Fanny pack
___ Journal

DO NOT BRING: Radios, junk food, drugs, or alcohol

NOTE: The U.M.D. Kirby Games and Outing Center rents a variety of winter outdoor equipment. For more information, call (218) 726-8734.