

FALL LINE • GEAR & GADGETS

» STUFF WE LIKE

» YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE All who wander might not be lost, but knowing your location is never a bad idea, either. That's a cinch with **Garmin's Oregon 550t GPS unit (\$600)**. The key to this high-end handheld is its big color touch-screen. It's easy to read in direct sunlight and allows for quick toggling between functions, which include compass, altitude, trip calculator and preloaded topo maps. The detailed maps allow you to precisely pinpoint where you are. And with a built-in camera that geo-tags each photo, you can now indisputably prove where you've been. garmin.com



» YUMMY GUMMY You've got to hand it to Clif's R&D people: They know how to make a good product better. The **Clif Shot Bloks (\$35 box, 18 packages)** now come in six-cube sleeves, which reduce packaging and make for easier storage when you're on the move. Consider them Gummi Bears for athletes. Skiers will like that the gel cubes don't freeze in the field, effectively refuel you and slide nicely into a zipped pocket. We've also discovered that they're handy to keep in a desk drawer during the off-season for when we bonk after our midday trail run. clifbar.com



» STRONG SILENT TYPE Snapping a ski pole during an epic day is downright frustrating—and, inevitably, a huge waste of time. **Level's new Freeride ski pole (\$80)** aims to keep you on the hill and out of the shop. The pole's clover-leaf shaft design increases tensile strength while also maintaining the pole's light swing-weight. In addition, the Freeride takes a new tack on adjustable ski poles: The soft plastic grip has two height positions, which comes in handy in the backcountry. levelusa.net

» JACKET-OF-ALL-TRADES We love puffy jackets. We just wish they didn't make us feel so, well, puffy. Therein lies the brilliance of **Patagonia's new barely there Nano pullover (\$150)**. Three ounces lighter than Patagonia's Down Sweater—a SKI staff favorite we were sure would never be unseated—the Nano's synthetic **Primaloft** insulation retains heat even when wet. The wind- and moisture-resistant polyester shell is 100 percent recycled material and recyclable through Patagonia's Common Threads program. You can use it as a midlayer, wear it alone on a spring ski day and take it out at night. That's versatility. patagonia.com



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