



### Horny Toad Kitimat Jacket

I like outdoor apparel as much as the next hiker-camper-skier. But I don't like walking around Manhattan, where I live, looking like I missed a turn on my way to the trailhead. Which is precisely why I like my Kitimat jacket—it's as at home in the city as it is in the woods. Made of CooWool (48% poly, 26% wool, 26% acrylic, with a microfiber backing), it's a little stretchy, plenty windproof and quite elegant, in a simple, outdoorsy kind of way. There's a drawstring at the waist but no elastic at the wrists, so when it's cool I wear an underlayer with a good, tight cuff. Price: \$160 ([www.hornytoad.com](http://www.hornytoad.com)). —Nancy Nasworthy

### Power Putty Grip Strengthenener

Whether you're heading for your first wall climb or for a brake-heavy mountain-bike ride, get ready with Power Putty. Made of silicone rubber and available in four densities, from rehab-soft to Mafia-henchman firm, the malleable nugget helps increase hand strength and finger flexibility. I use it at work when I'm on the phone or waiting for Web sites to load—then I feel stronger and can go longer when the weekend rolls around. Price: \$8 (800-289-7889). —Mark R. Johnson



### Crescent Moon Snowshoes

Every snowshoe maker boasts about its shoes' ergonomic shapes, no-slip bindings and ballistic materials. But it's often hard to tell a good shoe by its appearance—to know quality, you have to feel it. Of the 12 snowshoe models I tested last winter, Crescent Moons felt the best. The Permagrין 13 (left), a women's model, has a narrow teardrop shape so you don't have to widen your gait to avoid stepping on the shoes as you walk, and I found the Permagrין 9, a unisex model for people under 200 pounds, equally easy to use. Their ratchet bindings, which have left-foot- and right-foot-specific foot plates to make your snowshoes feel more like shoes, are a cinch to use with gloved hands. Price: \$239 for the 9, \$229 for the 13 (800-587-7655; [www.crescentmoonsnowshoes.com](http://www.crescentmoonsnowshoes.com)). —Loren Mooney