



◀ SCARPA VEGA MOUNTAINEERING BOOT

Owner: **Jimmy Robbins**, 32, biologist, treeplanter and mountaineer, Nelson, BC

Materials: plastic, vinyl, high-tensile rubber

Country of manufacture: Italy

Price paid: \$70 used and a \$50 resole

Years owned: 12

High point: soloing the first pitch of Super Bock, Field, BC

Quote: "It's never seems a good time to drop \$500 on a new pair of boots, so I keep on rockin' and repairing them."

▼ STUBAI ICE AXE

Owner: **Mirek Hladik**, 39, climbing guide, Gravity Adventures owner, Nelson, BC

Materials: forged stainless steel

Country of manufacture: Austria

Price paid: 200 shillings (approximately \$180)

Years owned: 25

Quote: "This was my main axe after my dad's old wooden axe finally broke. This unit was used on Carlsberg [Column] in Field, BC, Professor Falls in Banff, AB and on Mount Fay [Banff National Park]. Now it's just a third tool in case I drop my main axe. The short shaft fits good in my pack. It also works well for alpine routes, you can put some pins in for steep ice or snow. I keep it in my car for personal protection. Ha! Never know in Nelson."



PATINA

The subtle and storied sheen of wear and tear

Photography by Sterling Lorence



◀ **JOSH EVIN PREMIUM LAGER PRO SERIES DECK, STAGE 9 136 INDEPENDENT TRUCKS, BONES WHEELS WITH SWISS BEARINGS**

Owner: **Josh Evin**, 26, pro skateboarder, Castlegar, BC

Materials: Canadian maple deck, 356 Aluminum heat-treated to T6 condition, non-slip 4140 chromoly steel axles, STF polyurethane wheels

Price paid: \$280 to buy but free for Josh

Time owned: three months

Country of manufacture: Canada

High point: skating on the Great Wall of China

Quote: "Board usage varies a lot. Sometimes they break or get worn out fast, depending on the surfaces you skate on. Usually they last a month tops, depending how much you skate. I know some friends that ride a new board every couple of days. I rarely do any repairs. Being a pro means I'm spoiled with a lot of product. I tend to skate the same shape that I designed, and I'm completely happy with it. It's nice to get use to a shape that you like and stick with it. This particular board here rides like the wind; it's my design, and it's broken in to perfection."

▶ **1998 STRAIGHT SHAFT LIGHTNING PADDLE**

Owner: **Becky Bristow**, 31, filmmaker and expedition kayaker, Revelstoke, BC

Materials: fibreglass, epoxy glass prepreg shaft

Country of manufacture: Germany

Price paid: \$180

Years owned: 10

High point: first descent of Ecuador's Pusuno River,

Class 5 water complete with a 40-foot waterfall

Quote: "This paddle is well-used and well-loved. It took me on my first creeking missions and first decent in South America. I kept it to hang it on the wall to remember the best memories of my early years of creekboating."



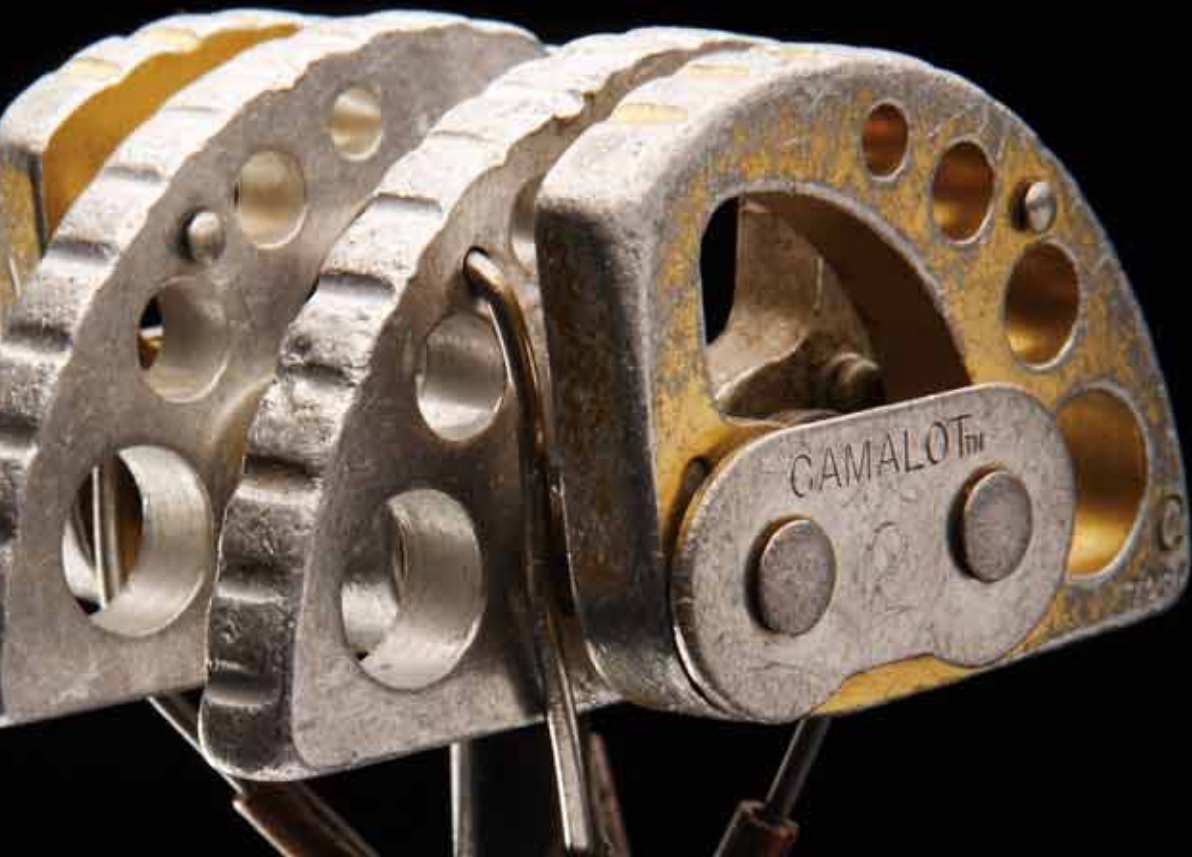


◀ **1991 CUSTOM-BUILT LAVOI TITANIUM MOUNTAIN BIKE FRAME**

Owner: **Chris George**, 38, gear distributor, amateur bike racer, Nelson, BC
Materials: titanium
Country of manufacture: Canada
Price paid: \$5,000
Years owned: 16

High point: four-day trans Purcell Range mission in BC: up the Earl Grey Pass, down the Toby drainage, up to Jumbo Glacier and back down to Argenta.

Quote: "Over all these years it now shows some signs of wear. The head tube has been ripped off, there are small hairline cracks in some of the welds and the chainstays have started to form grooves in the material where the occasional bent rim just had to make it home. In the last couple of years, little cracks and creaks also started to form. They were on my mind but it never stopped the riding."



▶ **BLACK DIAMOND CAMALOT #2**

Owner: **Jon Walsh**, 35, photographer and mountaineer, Golden, BC
Materials: stainless steel, aluminum and plastic
Country of manufacture: USA
Price paid: \$70
Years owned: 10

Quote: "The Camelot #2 is a staple fixture on my harness and travels with me everywhere. It's the size that defines the hand jam, a favourite size amongst many devout crack addicts. Last summer, Chris Brazeau and I were climbing on the east face of Snowpatch Spire in the Bugaboos, which has to be one of the best walls for alpine rock climbing in North America's premier rock playground. We were on an 11-pitch route called Sweet Sylvia, gunning for an obvious two-pitch variation at about half height. As we veered out right into new ground, we were pleasantly surprised to find most of the climbing in our variation turned out to be overhanging, and the crack we followed mainly stayed in the range of the #2 Camelot. The second pitch was especially spectacular, with 30 metres of overhanging hand jams, and we agreed it had to be one of the best pitches in the Bugs."

▼ **1976 PENTAX MX SLR CAMERA**

Owner: **Pat Morrow**, 55, photographer and filmmaker, Kimberley, BC
Materials: Aluminum, plastic, glass, rubberized silk
Country of manufacture: Japan
Price: \$900
Years owned: 26

High point: the summit of the highest peak on each of the world's seven continents

Quote: "The photos I sold from this little precision instrument ultimately provided the ticket to climb and photograph the highest mountain on all seven continents. No matter the bitterly cold temperature had killed the camera's meter battery, the mechanical shutter still functioned. The patina built up from rubbing on my bony ribs, while wearing it slung around my neck, is a reminder of all the great times I had while documenting adventures in this beautiful world we live in."

