Free sample from The Base Weight Reduction Planner. This is worksheet 2 of 11. Get all 11 worksheets: ultralightsetup.com/kit/base-weight-planner

Gear Inventory & Base Weight

The number every other decision is measured against

Hiker	**Date**
Trip type	**Target base weight**

Base weight is everything in and on your pack except food, water and fuel. You cannot cut what you have not weighed, and nobody remembers an item weight correctly. Weigh each item on a scale that reads to a tenth of an ounce and write the real number down, including the ones that are embarrassing.

Category totals

Fill the item list at the bottom first, then total each category up here.

Category	Items	Weight (oz)	Share of base
Shelter			
Sleep system, bag or quilt			
Sleeping pad			
Pack			
Cooking and fuel hardware			
Water treatment and storage			
Clothing carried, not worn			
Electronics			
First aid and repair			
Everything else			

Category	Items	Weight (oz)	Share of base
BASE WEIGHT TOTAL			100%

Worn clothing and trekking poles in your hands are skin-out weight, not base weight. Keep them out of this table or keep them in every time, but do not move them between trips to make a number look better.

Which tier you actually landed in

Threshold	Weight	Yes / no
Super ultralight, under 5 lb	80 oz	
Ultralight, under 10 lb	160 oz	
Lightweight, under 20 lb	320 oz	
Traditional, 20 lb and above	320 oz +	
Your base weight		

The boundaries are conventions, not physics. Nothing changes about your body at 9.9 lb that does not change at 10.1 lb. Shelter, sleep and pack come to roughly 55 percent of base weight at every tier, so the ratio never improves as you get lighter.

Item by item

Item	Category	Weight (oz)	Keep / cut / replace

Item	Category	Weight (oz)	Keep / cut / replace

Copy this page as many times as you need. A full three season kit is usually 45 to 70 lines.

You need a scale before you need anything else

Manufacturer weights are for the lightest size in the lightest configuration, and a pair of socks marketed at 1.8 oz is 3.6 oz in the pack because there are two of them.

- **Digital Pocket Scale, 500g x 0.01g**: Reads to a hundredth of a gram, which is the resolution the small items need. Under $25 and it pays for itself on the first shakedown.
- **Digital luggage scale, 110 lb**: The pocket scale tops out long before a loaded pack does. A hanging scale gives you the total on the day.

Current prices and our latest picks for each item: **ultralightsetup.com/kit/base-weight-planner/gear/**

Researched guidance, not professional advice. Sleeping bag and quilt temperature ratings printed here are survival limits, not comfort ratings, and hollow fibre filters are destroyed by a single freeze with no visible sign. Confirm current permits, food storage rules and trail conditions with the managing agency before you rely on this kit.