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TRAVEL

Gear that keeps clothes neat, you cool, and your feet and your dog happy



Do wrinkled clothes hang you up? Higher Hangers, top, have less slope than standard hangers. (Higher Hangers)

By JUDI DASH

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7 AM



Slim lightweight hangers conserve space in suit bags and hotel closets. New Higher Hangers free up vertical space in addition to bulk. Typical hangers slope downward from the hook, but **Higher Hangers** dip at the center, then rise on each side like a shoulder shrug. Clothing hangs up to 4

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Cost, info: [Higher Hangers](#) in packs of 40 cost

Keeping it cool

[LifeProof's Backpack Cooler](#) can keep ice (and the equivalent of 24 beverage cans) chilled for up to two days; the water-repellent lining prevents leakage for about the same length of time. Adjustable padded back straps and a cinching chest strap help balance the load and reduce neck and shoulder strain.



The new nylon Backpack Cooler makes toting ice or as many as 24 cans easy. (LifeProof)

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medications and other temperature-sensitive items

front is great for stashing documents, keys, credit cards, and other small items.

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Cost, info: [LifeProof Backpack Cooler](#) costs about \$70; bit.ly/backpackcooler

Minimalism is in

Walking shoes are supposed to be sturdy, right? The folks who designed [Skinners Minimalist Barefoot Sock Shoes](#) beg to differ — or at least broaden your options. They believe feet should be unencumbered by structure and weight. Skinners' alternative is a pull-on, ankle-hugging high-tech sock with a grippy, shoe-like sole.

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Skidders Minimalist Barefoot Sock Shoes are light weight but hug the ground. (Skidders)

The breathable multilayer uppers combine yarns made of silver-infused antibacterial, moisture-wicking polypropylene, silky viscose, soft cotton and Lycra. The soles are made of a puncture-resistant, waterproof, double-layer polymer/plastic compound and are fused to the sock uppers with no glue or seams. Skidders' sock shoes, which weigh about 6 ounces a pair, are machine washable and stash in the included drawstring pouch or in a pocket. They are not intended for extended cold-weather exposure or for feet with serious orthopedic challenges.

[Skidders Barefoot Sock Shoes](https://www.skidders.com/skidders-barefoot-sock-shoes) in black with red, green, blue or other color accents cost about \$60; [skidders.cc/shop/skidders/](https://www.skidders.com/shop/skidders/)

Perfectly packed pooch

Nothing beats a well-organized dog except maybe a well-organized dog owner. Overland Dog Gear has loaded its new doggy [Week Away Bags](#) with collapsible spill-proof silicone food bowls, insulated treat and water carriers, even a zip-out placemat, in easy-access internal and external zippered and patch pockets, mesh pouches and flaps.

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