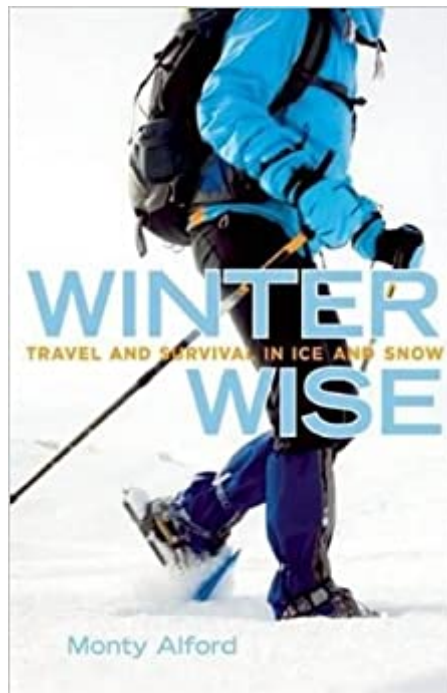




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Winter Wise: Travel And Survival In Ice And Snow



Synopsis

A man who has spent his professional life measuring the flow of northern rivers, climbed Alaska's Mount McKinley, was a member of both Yale University and Maine University's scientific expeditions to the Antarctic, guided a film crew documenting the late Robert Kennedy's ascent of Mount Kennedy, and crossed the St. Elias mountain range is certainly no stranger to the cold! In *Winter Wise*, Monty Alford shares his passion for, and deep knowledge of traveling in ice and snow. In addition to describing the scientific characteristics of winter weather and how to prepare for it with proper clothing, food, and conditioning, *Winter Wise* provides step-by-step instructions on building every conceivable winter survival instrument, from sleds to shelters to his own personal invention, the YuCan stove. This book is an essential resource for snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, ski patrol and rescue personnel, and all travelers in winter climates.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Monty Alford is a retired federal hydrographer who spent 35 years measuring and studying northern lakes and rivers. He is an experienced instructor of winter survival techniques and safe travel in snow and ice and a mountain guide who has made several ascents of northern peaks Yukon, Alaska, and beyond. He is the author of five books and numerous articles in outdoor, northern, and geographical magazines. He lives in the Yukon.

This is one of those books that should really be what is considered a "Gem." Unfortunately it is not. For reasons that I am not quite clear on, the book has very little practical information beyond a rank

beginner's skill level. If you know absolutely nothing of winter camping/hiking/backpacking, this little book can be for some value. For example, the author rightly touts the advantages of fleece and names brands, and while I believe it to be consistent with my own experiences, there is very little added in depth info. For as competent and experienced as the author appears to be, only 1% of his knowledge and skill seems to be put to paper. I got the impression after reading this book that a hands-on experience in the field with the author would give the reader and novice exactly what one hopes to glean from the book.

A lot of survival books are derivative, this one comes out of the authors personal experience and offers some original ideas and approaches. The You-Can stove alone is worth the price of the book, I have built two using the detailed instructions, and it's a good low-tech idea that could make a big difference in a snow cave or North of the tree line. There are also plans for a collapsable travel sled that looks worth making. The book gives a good primer on winter travel, ice and river hazards, suitable clothing, hypothermia and is a great supplement to a winter living library.

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