

**Full Article:** <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/manage-snow-capped-mountainside-one-222937590.html>

## Manage the snow-capped mountainside with one of our favorite winter jackets

Spring may be just around the corner, but now is the time to keep your eyes peeled for end-of-season deals so that you can be all set even before the next ski season begins. You're only as good as what you're wearing, and that applies even more when you're on the mountain. When battling the elements of Mother Nature, apparel is the most powerful weapon in your gear arsenal. Warmth, dryness, and breathability are three key factors in achieving all-day comfort. While choosing the correct product is essential, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. Different types of jackets are applicable to different activities, temperatures, and weather conditions. Oh, and how they are layered is also a major consideration!

**More:** [Freezy Freakies, plus six other great running gloves for winter](#)

Whether resort skiing, snowboarding, or heading out into the backcountry, there are some products that simply stand a step above the rest. Selecting the appropriate winter shell, insulated shell, or puffy coat can be an expedition-altering decision, and we've picked out the best choices from each category. It's up to you to determine whether you are seeking the warmest, driest, lightest, or most breathable product — but we can get you started in the right direction.

### The best down puffy jackets

#### Mountain Hardware Stretch Down Jacket

Mountain Hardware joins the trend of ditching stitching with its welded [Stretchdown jacket \(womens\)](#). Q.Shield Down 750-fill chambers are a revolutionary way of sealing in warmth and retaining loft in wet conditions. Its unique stretch-knit fabric makes for a vast improvement in comfort over modern ripstop fabrics. If weight vs. warmth is your primary concern, this is easily your best selection, boasting a light weight of 17 oz.