



### The North Face Spire

**Size:** 40 litre  
**Weight:** 1.3kg  
**Price:** £100

It's great to see a TNF pack that isn't covered in bells and whistles. This is a nicely minimal pack that still manages to have a good back system while being light. The main weight saving seems to have come from the main fabric, which is a lightweight nylon that is used in car airbags. It seems tough but, with a lighter fabric on the side panels, there are tougher packs out there. You can further reduce the weight by losing the back system and hip belt. It comes in two back lengths and carries pretty well. A good option.



### Crux AK47-X

**Size:** 47 litres  
**Weight:** 1.2kg  
**Price:** £140

Crux are synonymous with low weight technical products and this is obviously no exception as you get a 47 litre pack with a five litre lid extension for only 1.2kg. The Kevlar/Cordura fabric offers great durability for its weight although it isn't the toughest fabric out there. The clever alloy frame also offers a good carry while being light. The features on the pack aren't over-abundant but I can't think of much else I'd add. If you need a larger light pack, this has got to be at the top of the list.



### Lowe Alpine Mountain Attack Pro

**Size:** 45 litre  
**Weight:** 1.7kg  
**Price:** £110

This pack emphasises comfort over low weight and I think this is one of the better load carriers around thanks to its really comfortable hip belt and good back system. It looks a little 'busy' at first, but it doesn't have any extraneous features and has a particularly good lid pocket and metal buckles. The 'load locker' compression strap system works well with axes or skis and you can remove the hip belt when climbing. This pack is a pleasure to wear, which makes it well worth a look.



### Haglöfs Roc

**Size:** 35 litre  
**Weight:** 1.5kg  
**Price:** £100

This is a real 'middle ground' pack with good levels of comfort and an average weight. It has all of the expected features including an extendible/removable lid and uses some very tough fabrics. The back system gives a great carry although I would have preferred a more substantial hip belt that was then removable. The spacer mesh on the back, while comfortable, will tend to collect snow or abrasion damage. It does feel good on the back however, and it will do a great job.



### Climber favourites?

Although there isn't a single poor pack in this review for us it's the **Mountain Hardwear Dihedral** for toughness, the **Lowe Alpine Mountain Attack Pro** or the **Deuter Guide+** for comfort and the **Crux AK47-X** for low weight with volume and load carrying ability.