



antis recently sent me the Blackbeard X to evaluate. I already use their pistol system and the associated app. I love that system as it's a great diagnostic tool and has TONS of drills, skill builders. and daily challenges. Luckily, the Blackbeard X uses the same app and I just had to toggle between the two platforms on the app in settings. Even though familiar with it, it still took a bit to find how to switch between the two.

Upon receiving and unpacking it, the unit that looks like a 30-round magazine went straight to be charged. While it was charging, I reviewed the installation instructions. There was no mention of the app and how to use it in the packaging, so it was good I was already using the system for my handgun.

After charging, it was time for installation.



Their instructions were clear, but I still had a few issues before it would finally work. Again, that was a user error. Once it was installed correctly it was time to put it to the test. I ran it through a TON of drills. You must get to a certain number of shots before any data shows in the diagnostic area. After a lot more than the minimum shot count needed, it was time to analyze the data on the app. It seemed really accurate as to the errors I was making and gave tips on how to correct grip, trigger control, etc. There's a lot of data to look at and assimilate. As a data nerd, this is a pretty cool feature! The drills are varied and allow you to work on several things, even shooting while kneeling. The charge lasts a long time! I used it for hours before it needed to be charged. Next, the



Blackbeard was used with some students. Two were experienced rifle shooters and one had never seen an AR-15 before. The two experienced users loved the tactile feel when you pull the trigger and felt it gave a realistic feel of shooting the rifle. One quote was "It ran like a live fire without the pow of recoil. I give it 5 stars". The other experienced shooter said, "It was very easy to use the system". The novice said, "I want to buy a rifle!".

Another time I ran through the Basic Rifleman course. It is 10 stages of different skills and drills that you must perform at a certain level or score to pass each level. It is also a lot of shots! In hindsight, this course should have been split up over several days. There were a lot of shots and my arms got very tired. I love that upon completion of each stage fireworks go off! It made me laugh and want to keep going.



Upon completion of the entire course, they mail you out an actual patch!!! The patch arrived inside of a week. That was definitely an added perk.

The performance measurement part has quite a few layers to it. It's interactive in some places where you can touch the red area and it tells you what you are doing wrong and how to fix it. I love the section where you can see how much your muzzle moves, and where the shot actually broke in relation to the bullseye.

One very big unforeseen benefit of using the Mantis Blackbeard X is stronger arms!!! I'm training with my rifle a lot more with the Blackbeard X than with live fire now. In short, this is a very beneficial diagnostic tool, practical tool, and training tool. I intend to keep using it very often and using it with students when they first start using the AR-15. I highly recommend Blackbeard X from Mantis. The price of the system is well worth it as you save much more in ammo costs than the system cost and get a lot of benefit from the practice time spent. In a time of scarce ammunition or expensive ammunition the Mantis Blackbeard X is a terrific investment in your training. to keep using it very often and using it with students when they first start using the AR-15. I highly recommend Blackbeard X from Mantis. The price of the system is well worth it as you save much more in ammo costs than the system cost and get a lot of benefit from the practice time spent. In a time of scarce ammunition or expensive ammunition the Mantis Blackbeard X is a terrific investment in your training.





ECLIPSE HOLS 11

with Melonie Kennedy

vital step to selecting a holster for a handgun is making sure it is well made and fits the make and model of your gun perfectly to assist with safe retention, no matter what your activities may be. For this reason, many handgun enthusiasts appreciate holsters made of Kydex® - myself included. Properly formed Kydex® holsters will fit your handgun like a glove, allowing it to click into place; the best provide additional retention assistance via adjustable screws. Appearance is the other reason such holsters are popular, particularly with women; Kydex® holsters offer an array of prints that range from simple colors to fun, flashy, and even holiday prints.

When offered the opportunity to review an Eclipse Holsters product, those many choices of Kydex® made things incredibly difficult. I finally chose the Intrepid Inside the Waistband (IWB) holster for my Glock 43. Eclipse states on their website that the Intrepid is their #1 best selling holster, and I quickly learned why! Specifically meant for beltless carry, the Intrepid includes the UltiClip waistband retention device perfect for use with items where one doesn't have a solid carry belt to attach a holster with. I rarely wear clothing with belt loops and even in jeans I will often skip wearing a belt. A holster with an UltiClip is always

my preference, and I've incurred additional expenses on other holsters where I had to change out the clip separately by myself. Seeing the beltless clip on the Intrepid was an immediate win!

I chose the "Don't Be a Prick" print for my Intrepid; being an Arizonan, I couldn't resist the cactus print. The name is also a cheeky reminder that if we choose to carry a handgun, professionalism is still key. The colors of the print are clear and the design is perfect, with no misalignment. There are no burrs or rough points at the bends or edges of the Kydex®. My Glock 43 fit perfectly, and retention was quite firm, so I did loosen it slightly. (A card is included with very clear instructions for



adjusting retention, if you haven't worked with this type of holster before.) There's no question in my mind that my handgun is not leaving the holster unless I want it to. I took my carry gun to the range for training and even with plenty of movement while working with other pistols, I had zero issues with retention of my EDC. A good, solid grip and draw showed the Intrepid "who's boss" and I was clearing my holster and on target with my usual speed.

The only issue I noted with the Intrepid is that it is wider than some of my other IWB holsters and does not fit into the elastic strap section of my Alexo Athletica carry leggings without risking significantly stretching the elastic.



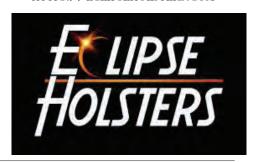
That's not a concern, though, thanks to the aforementioned UltiClip - instead of using the Intrepid trigger-guard style, I simply used it as a full IWB and went about my day. This is where the UltiClip, proper molding of the Kydex®, and adjustable screws are key, and Eclipse Holsters hit one out of the park!

All in all, I am incredibly pleased with my test of the Eclipse Holsters Intrepid IWB and I'm planning to add quite a few more of their prints to my holster collection. Whether you're looking for your first IWB holster or your fiftieth, I highly recommend supporting this small, veteran-owned business and getting your

custom holster with a lifetime guarantee.

In our Vol. I 2024 Newsletter Tammy Stein will provide her take on the Eclipse Holster

HTTPS://ECLIPSEHOLSTERS.COM





GIFT GUIDE FOR THE SHOTGUN ENTHUSIAST

Especially if she loves the color Purple















Syren Foreing Cone

Gun Slip

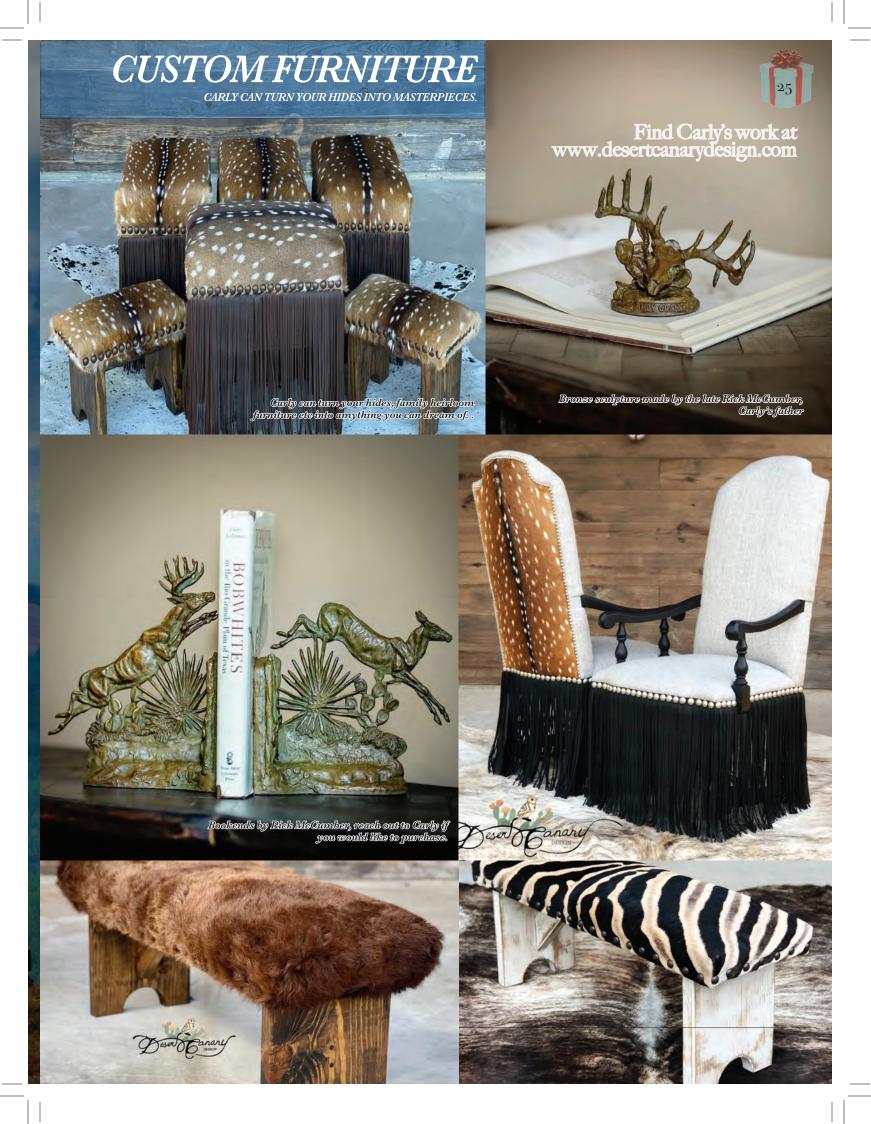
Stylish & Durable

Also comes in two lengths

IF YOU WERE WONDERING, I AM A SIZE PURPLE GUN SLIP.



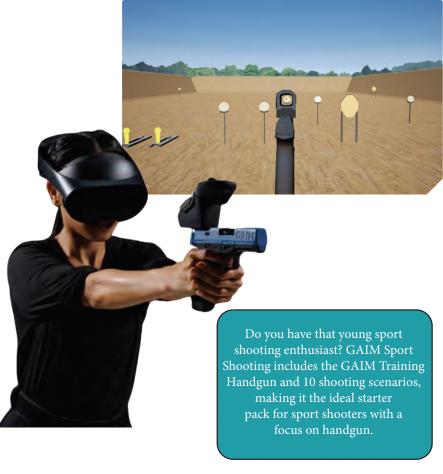




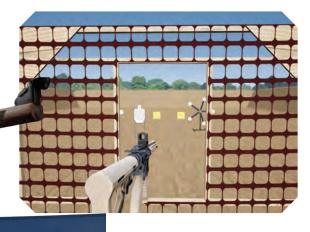












GAIM Clay Shooting includes the GAIM Wooden Rifle and 8 shooting scenarios with a focus on clay shooting, making it the ideal starter pack for new virtual reality hunters and sport shooters. Get the trap, skeet, and 5-stand packages for your youth shotgun athlete.



Equipped with rifle, hunting scenarios and analysis, GAIM Hunting lets you seize every opportunity to perfect your skill. Unleash your waterfowl hunting skills, get ready for swift movements in the boar-filled winter forest or take a virtual trip to Sweden's deep forests.





The Eve Long Sleeve Shirt from Ditale is not only comfortable, but it is UV protective, moisture wicking, and has HeiQ antimicrobial for durable odor control.



Beretta Covey Field Pant:

- Water repellent
- Cotton
- Anti-abrasion inserts
- Elastic waist
- Great for mild climates





- Water repellent
- Front-load capable
- Game bag with waterproof lining
- Anti-abrasion inserts on the shoulders.



Schnee's Kestrel Boot:

- Comfortable
- Supportive
- Waterproof
- Breathable
- Great for various hunting seasons









f your summer looks anything like mine, it was filled with lots of sunshine.

Summer is a popular time to get outside and explore nature, especially if you are a fan of water. Water and sunshine are literally my whole summer vibe. Then comes the fall. A season for hunting, football games, and God willing some sweater weather. For me, the fall season brings some bi-polar weather in Texas. Some days are still hot and humid, some days are dry and hot, some days are cool and some days you get 4 seasons in one day. This can really wreak havoc on your skin.

Our skin is our shell, its main purpose is to keep all of our water inside our bodies, hence it is actually challenging to get skincare products to go into our skin. It's barrier like properties make it a challenge to penetrate. When you add the crazy mood swings of the weather and the heaters in your house and car, the a/c, the leftover summer

skin, it all adds up to some potentially strenuous skin conditions. This can lead to unexpected breakouts, feeling oily and dry at the same time, or even feeling super dry. If you are up for treating yourself, this is the perfect time to find a licensed esthetician and get a good gentle chemical peel.

Maintaining a proper balance is the key to beautiful skin year round. I have a few routines that I follow based on the weather and what my skin is doing. What I eat, how much water I drink and even how much sleep I get all affect how my skin looks and feels. One of the best things you can do is have a product line that you can trust and have multiple options for different needs. Just because you have 7 skincare products doesn't

mean all 7 need to get used every day. But it's important to have that one product that your skin needs when it's breaking out for example, maybe during your cycle or when experiencing an overload of stress. This stress could be caused by the changing weather or just life. Either way, it's important to know your body, know your skin, find products that help you maintain the balance and knowing when to use them but

not over use them.

The most important aspect of skincare is ingredients. Always read the labels. I am a big fan of medical grade skincare as it is a

classic example of you get what you pay for. Our editor here, Brandy, is a perfect example of the other best option which is to make your own natural products. Everything in between those two options can pretty much be flushed down the toilet in my opinion. Our current economy is based on the bottom line and unfortunately in skincare it is rampant how much manufacturers could not care less about you or your health or even the results promised by their false advertising. Medical grade skincare is not only results driven but free of all the bad ingredients like fragrances and preservatives. Natural home made skincare is amazing but not all of us have the time so you just have to find your comfort level and your path to beautiful healthy skin.

All products on the next page can be purchased on my website

estheticianskin.com



esthetician {skin}





Here's some of the medical grade products from my line that have helped hundreds of clients and friends keep the pesky minor breakouts away.



Breakout Defense

This product contains just the right amount of Salicylic acid and Glycolic acid to gently control oil production and exfoliate the top layer keeping breakouts away.



Juicie Serum

This magical blue juice is a hydrating dream. It is mostly hyaluronic acid which penetrates deep within the skin to draw moisture in and hold it there. I call it daily liquid filler. It leaves skin looking younger and more firm as well as softer and more hydrated.



Skinnie Moisturizer

This is my personal favorite. I don't like the emollient feeling left behind on some thicker moisturizers so this one is perfect. After you apply it, it fully absorbs into your skin leaving only happy hydrated skin behind.

Acne Killer Cleanser

This is perfect as a daily for someone with intense breakouts but this is also one of those products that a lot of my under 35 clients love to use ONLY the week leading up to their period. With a 10% Benzyl Peroxide blend and soothing aloe vera it kills any breakouts forming and soothes at the same time.



Glowie Serum

This is liquid gold. A triple duty antioxidant formula that helps to brighten the skin, support healthy collagen production and protect against damaging free radicals and HEV (blue light). You really can't ask for more out of a vitamin c product.



Thickk Moisturizer

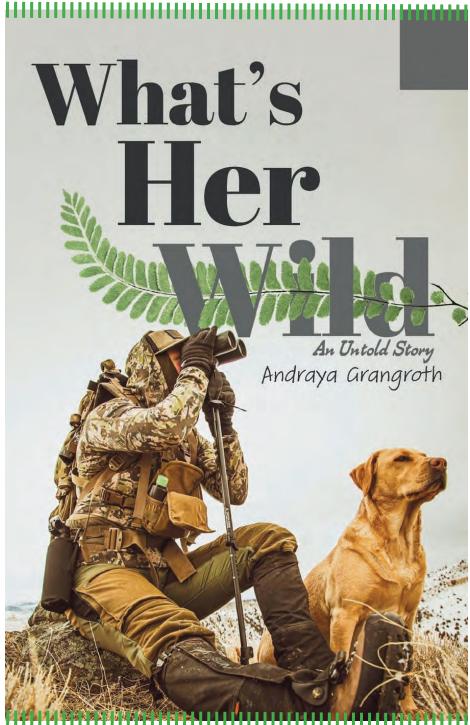
This rich and creamy classic is for the type of person that enjoys the silky layer left behind from a good moisturizer.



For the ladies experiencing the post summer dryness from all the good times had in the sun, I am a huge fan of this hydrating combo. This is part of my daily morning routine (when I actually do it which is not everyday because surprise! I am not perfect)

Last but not least a girl needs a good moisturizer. Moisturizer is the key to sealing the deal on your skincare. I like to think of my options here as being very simple. You are either one or the other and it's all personal preference.

As always I am here if you ever have questions about your skin. If you are struggling to find something that works, or if you are just ready to level up on your skincare. I specialize in helping you avoid over complicating things as my motto at Esthetician Skin is "skincare made simple."



ndraya Grangroth was born into a

harvesting of the land. It didn't take her long to find her place among the

family reliant on hunting, and

rows in the garden and in the rainforest looking

for deer and elk. Wild places soon became her

place of learning, discovery, and escape. Having

suffered sexual trauma at a young age, Andraya

often took flight to the tall ferns and evergreens

behind the house. Here she cultivated a deep

connection, which she now shares in her

autobiography, What's Her Wild, An Untold Story.

After fifteen years of suppressed memories Andraya finally speaks her truth, unraveling layers of trauma, the ultimate test of strength and resilience. She hopes to inspire others to make their healing a priority in their lives, to spend more time outside, and to fuel the fire of passion that simmers within each one of you.

As Andraya started to heal from her trauma she felt a strong pull to share the wild places with others. After harvesting a mature mule deer buck all on her own she was confident she had the skills to become a professional hunting guide. In those empowering moments of packing out the entire mule deer all on her own, she found her calling. Going on year seven of guiding Andraya has found great success in her career and is here to share some tips on finding a reputable outfitter and guide.

Andraya is a survivor, hunting guide, owns a clothing company, and best of all she is a woman empowering other women. Her autobriography is a must read and a great gift for our ladies living their best LadyShooter LifeStyle.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ANDRAYA HERE:

Websites:

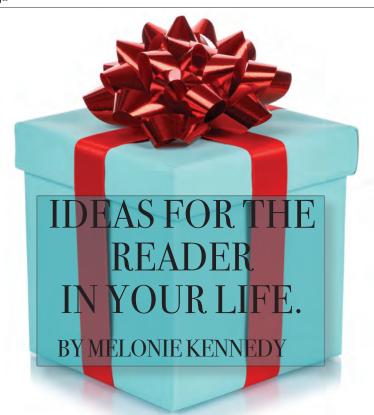
https://www.whatsyourwild.net https://ridgepatrol.com



@whatsyourwild @ridgepatrol



Andraya provides us great insight on how to find the best guide for your needs on the next page.



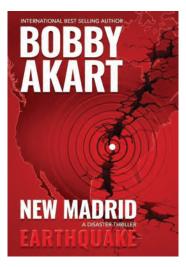
LOOKING FOR A GREAT CIFT FOR YOUR FAVORITE READER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON? START WITH THIS LIST:

FICTION:

New Madrid Earthquake

BY BOBBY AKART -

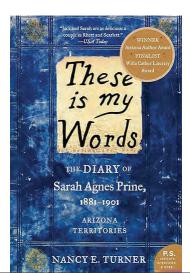
Does your recipient adamantly state that Die Hard IS a Christmas movie? This disaster thriller is going to be a winner! When the New Madrid fault zone shreds to pieces, a family tries to reunite - and your reader might need a hankie as they wait to see who will make it home for Christmas.



These Is My Words: The Diary of Sarah Agnes Prine

1881-1901 BY NANCY TURNER -

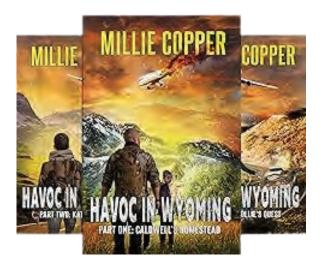
As the first in a trilogy set in the Arizona Territories, this book pulls readers into the frontier world as seen through the eyes of a strong woman set on preserving her history for her legacy. Inspired by the author's own family, the entire series is perfect for the Cowboy Action, SASS shooter, or any American history buff in your life.



Havoc in Wyoming series

BY MILLIE COPPER -

Caldwell's Homestead kicks off this seven-book "cozy" apocalypse set that draws in those who constantly wonder "what if?" Focused on family, community, and faith, this series will be for the reader who wants to learn while losing themselves in a storyline.



Pink Pistol Sisterhood SERIES

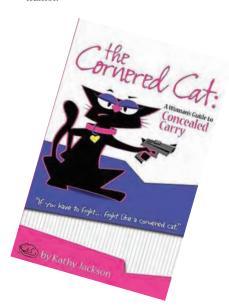
Whether your recipient is into Westerns, sweet romance novels, or generally loves anything for gun girls, this series will pique her interest. Historical fiction stretching across multiple eras, a pink pistol gifted to a young lady by Annie Oakley herself brings a whole new view of offering "the little lady" a pink pistol!



NONFICTION:

The Cornered Cat: A Woman's Guide to Concealed Carry by Kathy Jackson

Whether she's new to firearms ownership or looking for new insights for improving her carry habits, this title has her covered. An experienced instructor, Jackson doesn't sugar coat; she shares her wisdom with a balance of hard truths and humor.

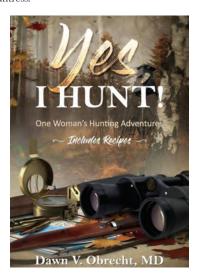


Sharp Women by Kelly Sayre -

The founder of the Diamond Arrow Group walks women through the process of learning to trust their intuition, build their situational awareness skills, and move into living life aware, but unafraid. Applicable for ladies of all ages, and men too!

Yes, I Hunt: One Woman's Hunting Adventures by Dawn V. Brecht -

A vegetarian ER doctor joins her beloved on a hunt - and there's no punch line! Obrecht shares stories of her outdoor adventures, hunting howto's, and even recipes. Perfect start for the future huntress.

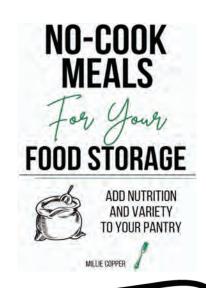


The Urban Prepper's Guide: How to Become Self-Sufficient and Prepared for the Next Crisis By JIM Cobb -

Recent years have many folks looking for preparedness resources, and this author's many years of expertise will offer insights for beginners and veterans to self-sufficiency and preparedness. No compound or acreage necessary, but if your recipient plans to move to the country, they'll still find plenty of great ideas in this one.

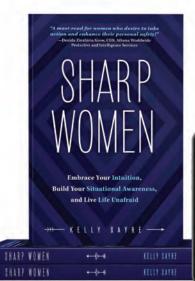
No-Cook Meals for Your Food Storage by Millie Copper -

This one's for the cook who loves to test out her pantry, the camper who doesn't always stay on the grid, and the gal who battles the heat of summer or a smaller kitchen. Who can say no to healthy, no-cook recipes that can be made with so little work?



Melonie is an NRAcertified shooting instructor and freelance writer.

To learn more about Melonie visit her website: https://meloniek.com









CUSTOM RIFLE SLINGS **HB** Custom Leather @ HBcustomleather

Rockstar Customer Leather @ Rockstarcustomleather













Shooter Girl Jewelry @ shootergirlammunitionjewelry

The Antlered Doe https://www.theantlereddoe.com





THE HUNT CHILDRENS BOOK

The Hunt, is a short read or fun bedtime story for any young hunter and their family to enjoy! Written By: Stephanie White @WelcomeToOurFarmLife Illustrated by: Dustin Dattilio @ DustinDattilioArt





The Friday Concealed Carry Belt Bag by Zendira

Magnetic access to a dedicated concealed carry pouch designed to clip in a trigger guard of your choice. Adjustable cut resistent strap.



Sig Sauer P238

Low recoil, smooth trigger, easy to handle, fits in small purses! Editor Note: Ladies, this gun fits in my LV bumbag and is perfect for my fellow lefties.



Sabre Dual Stun Gun

compact, easy to conceal, with built in flashlight.



Surefire Stiletto

Radically sleek and slim profile, and light weight for easy concealment. Well-rounded MaxVision Beam® illumination, which projects a wide flood beam that's ideal for situational awareness



Sabre quick release pepper spray

compact, easy to conceal, with quick release key chain.



EDC Knife GMKT2

Carry friendly at 2.75-inches. Assisted opening action with flipper mechanism.

Kubaton

The Kubaton Pen with Smooth Grip is a versatile tool that can be used for writing or self-defence purposes.



Made by Women For Women

At Ridge Patrol, we believe in empowering women to be comfortable in nature, to treasure our natural resources, and enjoy moving through the wild with clothing that compliments your every step.



ig ridgepatrol www.ridgepatrol.com





Ridge Patrol Alpen Glow Tech Top:

- Super soft
- For everyday use or take it to the field, hunting, hiking, etc.



High Rise Ridge Racer Legging:

- Super soft
- Compression top so they stay up!



Dusk Break

- Fleece l
- Water r
- Hidden comfort

