



NEWSROOM

Features

[In The Gates](#)
[Nordic News](#)
[Europe News](#)
[Down Under](#)
[Park City](#)

Daily Local News

[California](#)
[Northwest](#)
[No. Rockies](#)
[Utah](#)
[Colorado](#)
[Southwest](#)
[Midwest](#)
[NY/SNE](#)
[Atlantic](#)
[New England](#)
[Canada](#)

NORDIC NEIGHBORHOOD

By Jonathan Wiesel

Socks With A Pocket

Tuesday, November 23, 2004

I think there's a little way to go before they're fully suited to track skiing, but I really like the concept behind Zip It Sox.

How do you carry identification, a license or credit card, some currency, or even a car or room key when you're on the trails? Well, you can wear a fanny pack, belt pouch, or jacket with pockets to carry these valuables. But have you ever left them in your room or car - or worse, dropped them somewhere? (Okay, I have, so this really hits home.)

Now there's an alternative container, and in winter you won't leave home without them: your socks! Zip It provides a concealed zipper pocket on one sock of each pair with room for small items. Ingenious!

Their socks seem reasonably warm, with double cushioning on heel and sole and a non-ravel top. They're all-synthetic (ComFortrel XP®, Spandex, and Polyester) so have a lot of stretch and are quick-drying, and come in either black or white. The Travel Socks model (the one I've tried) is much too high for XC (though the pocket is big enough to carry a passport), but the Crew and Sport versions look good for XC and snowshoeing use. For more info: (888) 494-7769.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jonathan Wiesel is a nordic guide, instructor, and ski area planner, who has written for over 120 magazines and newspapers on three continents. He wrote *Cross-Country Ski Vacations*, a guide to the great destinations of North America. He lives in Longmont, Colorado. For more info on Jonathan, click to [JonathanWiesel.com](#).



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