

BEAR HUNTING CHECKLIST



Is there a black bear hunt on your calendar this spring? You lucky dog! Here's a checklist of items to make sure you take along for success and comfort.

OPTICS

LASER RANGEFINDER

Shop basspro.com, keyword [rangefinder](http://basspro.com)

Whether you're hunting from a stand up-close or glassing and stalking distant mountains, you need to know the precise range before you take the shot with your bow or rifle. Don't rely on a guide's guesstimate. Take your own rangefinder.



BINOCULARS

Shop basspro.com, keyword [binoculars](http://basspro.com)

Glass and stalk is all about great optics, but good glass comes in really handy in stand hunting, too. Black bear are notoriously difficult to judge. Getting a good look with binoculars really helps.



BUGS

THERMACELL SCOUT CAMP LANTERN

Shop basspro.com, keyword [thermacell](http://basspro.com)

Mosquitos and blackflies are a fact of life when it comes to spring black bear hunting. So like a microwave oven or a smartphone, once you've used a ThermoCELL, you'll wonder how you survived without it. This version is also a full-power camping lantern that's a comfort when you're waiting for your guide to pick you up after dark.



BUG JACKET

Shop basspro.com, keyword [bug jacket](http://basspro.com)

When you're on the move, nothing works as well to keep the bugs from biting as a bug suit. In extreme cases tape the wrists and waist to prevent the buggers from finding their way in.



FOOTWEAR

HIGH BOOTS

Shop basspro.com, keyword [hunting boots](http://basspro.com)

Sometimes your stand is in a swamp. Sometimes (most times?) it's going to rain. Pull on, knee-high waterproof boots are really comfortable and convenient. It's even better if they're well-fitted should you need to do some walking.



LOW BOOTS

Shop basspro.com, keyword [hunting boots](http://basspro.com)

On glass and stalk hunts, you'll be covering a lot of ground ... a good bit of it up and down. On some stand hunts, the walk from the truck will be short and the pure comfort of an athletic shoe is welcome. A good pair of low ankle, well-fitted hunting boots is right for either hunt. Take a pair!



COMFORT

WATER BOTTLE

Shop basspro.com, keyword [waterbottle](http://basspro.com)

Whether you're spending a long warm afternoon and evening in a stand, or you're on the move in the mountains, you need to stay hydrated. Take water, plenty of it, with you.



SEAT CUSHION

Shop basspro.com, keyword [hunt cushion](http://basspro.com)

On the stand, extra padding is always welcome for a long sit. When stopping to glass an alpine meadow for a couple of hours, a dry, soft spot to sit is essential. Taking your own cushion keeps a soft seat always at the ready.



BLIND CHAIR

Shop basspro.com, keyword [blind chair](http://basspro.com)

No, your guide's not going to look at you funny if you bring your own chair out to the stand. In fact, he's going to think, "This ain't his first rodeo." Outfitters are forever short on chairs for their stands, and most of the time, the last thing they feature is comfort.



GOOD TO HAVE

GAME BAGS

Shop basspro.com, keyword [game bags](http://basspro.com)

When you bag a spring bear, chances are it's going to be warm and it's going to be buggy. Light, breathable game bags are essential to keeping meat and hides in top condition.



CAMO TAPE

Shop basspro.com, keyword [tape](http://basspro.com)

When don't you need duct tape? A roll of camo duct tape in your pack can do everything from repair a rain suit to seal out bugs to splint a broken leg ... and then some!

