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Bazuka Gloves a blast for waterproof defense

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When the folks who brought you Gore-Tex are concerned enough with the waterproofing competition to challenge the patent in court, it's fair to assume the opposition is on to something good.

Gore-Tex has pretty much set the standard in breathable waterproof membranes for the past three decades, but the patented OutDry membrane found in Mountain Hardwear's Bazuka Gloves (MSRP: \$170) is aiming to raise the bar.

The thin OutDry membrane is bonded directly to the inside of the glove shell, eliminating gaps between the reinforced goatskin leather shell and the waterproof membrane, where moisture might otherwise find a nook to hide. The result is a cozy cocoon of blended wool and polyester-lined insulation that is shielded from water, wind and cold. An extra-long gauntlet fits over bulky jacket sleeves, and a Velcro wrist cinch keeps snow from sneaking in from the cuff.

These are cold-weather gloves designed for active backcountry adventures, not casual spring ski days, although the breathable OutDry membrane is available in lighter-weight models as well.

Get it: mountainhardwear.com has a list of retailers.

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