

How and when to make the move to Outdoor Climbing:

Outdoor climbing is not a complete new game as you may have heard. But it does depend on what type of climbing you're planning to make to the move to; whether Traditional (trad), Sport or Bouldering. What you have learnt indoor is still relevant, e.g. tying in, belaying and the buddy checks but there is a whole lot of new stuff to learn.

Outdoor Climbing types explained:

Traditional (trad) Climbing:

Trad climbing requires equipment that the lead climber places and the 2nd removes. This is relatively expensive to start with, but the hardware can last a life time.

Sport Climbing:

For Sport all you need is a Rope, Quickdraws, couple of screwgates and slings and a Helmet.

Bouldering:

A bouldering mat and maybe a more technical pair of rock shoes and a chalk bucket.

There's a list of items with prices [here](#).

How to:

Option 1:

Is to join a local club, who take on beginners. Join in on their events.

Option 2:

Go on a course run by an organisation like the BMC, (<https://www.thebmc.co.uk/ready-to-rock-indoor-outdoor-climbing-courses>), Plas Y Brenin (<http://www.pyb.co.uk/>)

Option 3:

Or you can meet up with someone who is willing to show you what to do. This could be the cheapest option but like anything else you may not know what you're getting into!

When To:

There are a few things to make it an enjoyable experience;

You feel confident in your own ability. i.e. have climbed indoors upto grade F4+ - F5

You have a competent person with you.

The climbing is easy enough but taxing a little

The weather is comfortable.

Assuming you already have a Harness, Belay device, Rock shoes and Chalk bag, you'll need the following:

Trad equipment:

Starter kit only:

Single Rope	50/60 mtr	£60-100
1 set of Nuts		£65-100
1 set of Hexes (4)		£50-60
8 quickdraws	(12,18,25cm)	£80-120
2x 120cm slings		£20
2x 60cm slings		£12
1x 240cm sling		£15
1x HMS screwgate karabiners (DMM Boa)		£14
2x screwgate karabiners		£22
10 snapgate karabiners		£60- 100
Helmet		£30-100
Nut key		£6-15
	Approx Total	£430 - 640

Additional items for consideration:

3 Cams	(sizes 1,2,3)	£85-120
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Sport:

Rope 60mtr		£80-180
10x quickdraws		£100-150
2x screwgate karabiners		£22
2x 120cm slings		£20
Helmet		£30-100
	Approx Total	£252- 472

Bouldering:

Bouldering Mat		£100-200
Technical rock shoes		£90-120