

SCOTTeVEST 3.0

All-weather, tech-friendly jacket system

A couple of years ago, before they were worn by Playmates and presidents (George W. Bush reportedly wears one), Scott Jordan sent me his first SCOTTeVEST prototype. In the detailed discussions that followed, I realized his vision of technology-enabling outer garments made loads of sense. As someone who has been struggling to find attractive, durable carrying solutions for personal electronics for almost twenty years, Scott's idea intrigued me. What if I could simply wear all my stuff, instead of strapping it over my shoulders or burdening my pockets?

That first design resembled nothing more than a black photo-journalist's vest, partially turned inside out. Most of the pockets were inside and out of sight, with connecting passages threaded between them for cords of various kinds. It was a bold stroke, but the bulging pockets made it look overly masculine so it appealed mostly to diehard geeks. Version 2.0 made substantial improvements in the elegance department, with clean lines, better integration, nicer materials, and a built-in backpack/pocket.

Now we have SCOTTeVEST 3.0, a complete redesign incorporating the best of the previous revs with increased overall outdoor utility — and still it manages to look sleek on the body.

The 3.0 is available in all-weather materials including FineTex for the outer wind-and-waterproof shell, breathable CoolMax for the interior lining, and a lightweight fleece version that can be optionally zipped into the shell for maximum protection from inclement weather. Altogether, it is far more than an all-season jacket, it's an outerwear system. From lightweight summer vest to warm winter parka, the SCOTTeVEST 3.0 does it all.

Nice Touches

You might think that 42 pockets and compartments with interconnected wiring conduits would be enough to have your average techno-maven clicking the Buy button as fast his mouse can move, but the real intelligence of this new design is in the little things. Nice touches abound. Starting at the top, there's a removable CoolMax-lined hood that has a fleeced-lined collar with conduits for headphone cords to keep them off your neck. There are pairs of earbud headphone retainers on either side of the neck so you can al-

ways pop them in or out without fumbling around. Travelers and law enforcement officials will love the hidden, upper-right breast pocket that reveals a flip-out badge or ID holder. Hidden epaulets on each shoulder are handy for clipping a mobile phone, cop-style, for easy speakerphone use when your hands are full. The inside breast pocket contains a cord with a clipped eyeglass chamois. Subtle piping on the front pockets add a bit of welcome detail which is echoed on the hand warmer pockets below. These pockets have key or security card lanyards, and the left pocket can be segregated into two pockets with an internal zipper and, on one side, a pair of beverage straps. There are two waist cinchers to keep out the wind, and a handy hat clip in back. On the middle back there is a large outside compartment that's big enough to carry a laptop.

I'm sure there are more cool features to this remarkable design, but I haven't discovered them yet. I'll find them eventually, though, since I bought one of my own.

If you tend to carry two or more electronic devices with you at all times, take a long look at the new SCOTTeVEST 3.0. It's a uniquely useful and attractive article of outerwear that will quickly become essential to you, all year-round.

—David MacNeill, Editor-at-Large

SCOTTeVEST 3.0 FineTex/Fleece System: US\$309

SCOTTeVEST FineTex Shell: US\$200

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