

# A SHORT GUIDE TO TACTICAL BOOTS

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# **Table of Contents**

# Introduction

# **Chapter 1: At Your Service**

What Are Tactical Boots? Who Uses Tactical Boots? Traditional Combat Boots vs. Tactical Boots

# **Chapter 2: Attention!**

Parts of a Tactical Boot Tactical Boot Types When and Where to Use Your Boots

# **Chapter 3: At Ease**

Importance of Using Tactical Boots in Training Tactical Boots Maintenance

# Conclusion

# Introduction

Being an adventurer takes you to a lot of different places. These places present themselves with their own challenges in hopes to stretch the limitations of your mind and body. We all know that it's a bit difficult to maintain such an active lifestyle, especially when you don't have the proper gear with you.



Every time you head out for a journey, you must have the right set of equipment with you and on you. Otherwise, you would probably have to cut your trip short because of insufficient tools to keep you going.

Taking on a journey of any kind takes a lot of physical strength, and your feet would often be a testament to that. If you don't have the proper footwear, you can expect your shoe to break apart suddenly amidst an exciting adventure. We're sure you wouldn't want that happening to you.

Your footwear is your greatest companion when you take on these kinds of challenges, which means that it must be reliable. Luckily, there's this footwear that will definitely help you last through years of conquering challenges. Get ready because we will be marching our way to victory with tactical boots on our feet!

# Chapter 1: At Your Service

As many before us have said, a journey of a thousand steps begins with one. Even mankind's trip to the moon started with one foot marching forward after the other. If you're one to conquer moons, gravity shouldn't be able to bring you down. With tactical boots, we can assure you that you can take a million steps without having to worry about your footwear giving up.

# What Are Tactical Boots?

For the short answer, a tactical boot is a type of footwear that is as strong and as adventurous as you. It is designed to withstand tremendous impact and years of rough use. A tactical boot is your ideal footwear for all kinds of activities, ranging from rugged workplace environment to adventurous thrills like hiking through the mountains. This makes tactical boots ideal footwear for professionals involved in law enforcement as well as regular individuals who like going on adventures.

Even if you use it in rugged conditions, as you may imagine in military training or combats, this footwear maintains its durability. Despite its heavy-duty design, the wearer can rest assured that it's just as comfortable as your day-to-day shoe. That is why it's also used for commercial or recreational purposes like hiking and climbing.

# Who Uses Tactical Boots?

As mentioned, tactical boots are used by adventurers and people in service alike. Some even use them as a fashion statement, but since we're talking about its functionality, we'll head on over to the people who utilize their top-of-the-line performance.

# Military

Military personnel takes on various kinds of physical activities, from training to combat. This means that they have to wear footwear that is just as durable for extreme conditions. A tactical boot allows them to move freely across the field without breaking. When you enter the military, you might be required to use only a specific brand to keep the uniformity of the entire squad.

#### Police

Have you ever seen a police officer chasing down a law offender down a street? Or a S.W.A.T. team coming down from helicopters and busting doors open with their foot? They're not wearing sneakers, are they? That's because they need footwear that allows them to perform swift maneuvers while being able to kick down sturdy obstacles. Police officers often wear black tactical boots made especially for combat.

### Firefighters

When you go inside a blazing house, you'll definitely be facing an extremely hot environment. You have to make sure that your footwear doesn't melt in the process. A good pair of tactical boots can withstand extreme heat to protect your feet from burns.

#### Hikers

If you're not in the military and don't intend to join the police any time soon, don't worry. Tactical boots are also made for adventurous people like you. If you've been hiking for quite some time, then you probably know the importance of having a good pair of boots with you. With tactical boots, you don't have to buy new sneakers annually because tactical boots can last years of trekking the mountainsides.

# Traditional Combat Boots vs. Tactical Boots

You probably have seen a heavy-duty pair of boots and mistakenly referred to it as tactical boots. Although some people use the terms combat boots and tactical boots interchangeably, there are actually a few notable differences between the two.

### Flexibility

Tactical boots are specifically designed for physical activities that require you to make swift movements in split seconds. Because of this, tactical boots are often more flexible than traditional combat boots.

#### Material

To allow the wearer to move freely while wearing a pair of tactical boots, these are often made of softer materials. They also have an insole and an outsole for thicker protection underneath your feet, whereas a traditional combat boot would only have one sole and is usually made of leather.

#### Usage

Military training, police operations, and hiking trips require you to face different elements and all kinds of weather. That is why tactical boots are made to withstand the external forces of using it in these situations. On the other hand, a traditional combat boot is often used by officers who wouldn't be on the field.

# Availability

While there are many combat boots you can find on the market, the authentic, traditional ones may be a little harder to find because of various regulations when it comes to military equipment. Tactical boots, on the other hand, can be bought from multiple stores that sell tactical apparel. This is because tactical boots are also used for recreational uses, making it more available to the public.

# Chapter 2: Attention!

In this chapter, we want your full attention. We will be taking a closer look at tactical boots, and this will be the deciding factor whether you'll need this kind of heavy-duty footwear or not. We'll be breaking it down for you to understand its anatomy and determine the different types of tactical boots, so make sure that you take notes!



# Parts of a Tactical Boot

We already know that a pair of tactical boots is your ultimate footwear for all kinds of purposes, but what exactly makes it the ideal companion while you're on the field? We took apart a pair of tactical boots to understand its inner-workings and, mind you, it wasn't easy!

#### Upper Boot

The upper boot is basically everything that you can virtually see on the boot, excluding the soles. This is where you'll find all the features that a pair of tactical boots have, such as weatherproofing, durability, and safety. The upper boot includes the tongue, which covers the front of your ankles, the eyelets that hold the shoelace, the toecap that protects the front of your foot, and the collar that covers your ankles.

#### Midsole

The midsole is the part of the boot that your feet touch. Depending on the material used, some midsoles are softer while some are harder, but more often than not, they are comfortable enough for various kinds of physical activities. Soft midsoles protect your ankles when you engage in activities that involve moving on different angles, while hard midsoles let you experience the ground better to maintain your balance.

# Support and Cushioning

The support and cushioning are found in the midsole, heel, and around the entire insides of the boot that surrounds your foot. This part is what absorbs the shock and impact you receive as you move around, thus reducing or ultimately diminishing it. These parts would often have spring mechanisms or gel pockets in them to minimize the force received by your foot.

#### Outsole

If the midsole is the part that your foot touches, the outsole is the part that makes contact with the ground. Outsoles must be able to withstand a considerable amount of force and abuse. They also have waterproofing to keep your feet from getting soaked. Apart from that, they must be equipped with an anti-skid mechanism to keep you from slipping. The outsole differs depending on what purpose your boot serves.

# **Tactical Boot Types**

You have seen that tactical boots vary greatly depending on who uses it and where they use it. That is why there are different types of tactical boots that you can choose from to make sure that you have the perfect footwear for the situation you'll be using it.

#### Standard Issue

If you go to a store that sells tactical boots, the standard-issue is probably the one that you'll see in every corner. That's because the standard issue is the most basic type of tactical boots offered in the market. You'll see these pairs of boots worn by police officers, infantry soldiers, and hikers alike.

The standard-issue tactical boots can handle various kinds of terrains as they are equipped with soft soles, slip-resistance, and water-proofing mechanisms, and excellent insulation to keep your feet at normal temperature despite cold or warm weathers.

You might be thinking that standard-issue boots are only available for law enforcement personnel, but because they can handle all kinds of activities, you can see them in all sorts of stores that sell tactical gear.

#### Jump Boots

Because of the durability of tactical boots, a new type of it emerges for the sole purpose of jumping. Well, not really the basic jumps you do at home when you work out, but the kind of jumping that involves an extremely high platform and a parachute.

As you can imagine, jumping from such great heights is a problem if you don't intend to miss the ground. The force of gravity pulling your entire weight down, multiplying it as you get closer to land, is mind-bogglingly tremendous that you'd break a bone or two if you don't do it properly, not to mention the pain of receiving all that impact without a good pair of boots.

With that in mind, jump boots are made to keep your entire lower body, from knees below, safe from landing. The parts of the boot that supports your ankles and heels are reinforced with harder materials to keep you from suffering from injuries. The sole and upper portions of the boot are also hardened to reduce the risk of getting wounded if you ever encounter small rocks while landing.

### Tanker Boots

You don't intend to get on a tank anytime soon, do you? Even if you do, there's a tactical boot exactly for you. Tanker boots aren't really made for the sole purpose of driving and firing a military tank. Although it was born out of that necessity, tanker boots are not utilized for works that involve heavy machinery.



The first thing you'll notice in tanker boots is that instead of laces, it uses a series of buckles to tighten it around your foot. That's because tanker boots are made so that loose laces don't get tangled in heavy gears or other elements.

# When and Where to Use Your Boots

If you're still wondering why you need a good pair of tactical boots, consider the following list and determine whether or not you'll be facing any of these in your lifetime. This list features different situations where tactical boots are deemed necessary.

# Field Operations

Imagine you're running on mud or pavement, and then the next moment, you're kicking your way inside a locked room. Just the thought of it makes your feet hurt, doesn't it? It's a good measure to wear tactical boots for these kinds of situations.

#### Mountainside

The mountainside can be dangerous. Falling debris or slippery rocks are just some of the things your feet have to endure. With tactical boots, you don't have to worry about these elements because that's exactly what they are made for.

#### Jungle

No matter how much you try, going into the wilderness will get your feet soaked. That's why there are tactical boots that instead of incorporating a water-proofing mechanism, use materials that are easy to dry.

#### Winter

Frostbite is an ice-cold truth you have to accept if you go traveling in sub-zero temperatures. Tactical boots have insulations embedded on them to keep your feet warm even when you walk on arctic climates.

#### Desert

In much the same way, the insulation on tactical boots works to maintain a comfortable temperature around your feet. This means that even when you walk in a desert or scorching weather, you can keep your feet in proper condition with tactical boots.

# Chapter 3: At Ease

We know that you've already taken quite a good grasp of how secure a tactical boot is. In this final chapter, let's take a different turn and discuss how important they are and how you can prolong their service.



# Importance of Using Tactical Boots in Training

You've seen how much tactical boots can withstand rugged use even under extreme conditions, but what benefits do you actually reap from using them? Here's a quick overview of how vital tactical boots are in training:

#### Weather Proofing

The list above where we discuss the different situations you must wear a pair of tactical boots is a testament to how much they can withstand extreme weather. This means that in whatever field you're training on, your feet are safe because of its weatherproofing.

#### Comfort

A lot of footwear requires breaking-in, which means one thing: blisters. Blisters take days or weeks to heal, and you can't really engage in physical activities without having to worry about the pain in your foot. Tactical boots allow you to use them comfortably without getting blisters even when it's brand new.

#### Sturdiness

Even if you tell us that you can go miles of training through a forest, mud, jungle, or desert, if you don't have a good pair of tactical boots, your footwear will give up earlier than you. Tactical boots are manufactured to withstand harsh treatment, and they are sturdy enough to keep you going without them ripping apart.

#### Safety

If you're using boots that are designed to be worn by personnel who keep the society safe, then it must be appropriately made to ensure that their feet are secure as well. Various elements are encountered in situations that the military, police, and firefighters face in their everyday life. That is why tactical boots are important to guarantee that they can go against these events without worrying about injuring their feet. Some tactical boots even integrate mechanisms that protect your feet from electrocution for situations where highvoltage wires are lying on the ground.

#### Reliability

Don't worry about getting those fake rip-offs of tactical boots if you plan on using them as a fashion statement. However, if you're getting one for physical activities, make sure that the pair you get are reliable. Fake tactical boots would probably last a couple of months with harsh use. On the contrary, an authentic tactical boot is reliable enough to last for up to two years or more with proper maintenance.

# **Tactical Boots Maintenance**

Tactical boots are not immortal. With all the harsh conditions they go through in a single year, it's only a matter of time before your tactical boots retire. However, taking good care of your tactical boots prevents them from getting an early retirement. Since they are heavy-duty boots, it only takes minimal effort to maintain their condition.



# Routine Cleaning

As with all your other footwear, regular cleaning is also the deciding factor whether your tactical boot maximizes its lifespan or not. Whenever you go for a trail or operation, check your tactical boots before and after using them. Clean off the mud that may be stuck on the soles, and give them a proper shake to remove dirt and debris that have gotten inside.

#### Storage

There may be times when you're off-duty for a while, or you won't be using your tactical boots for a hike for quite some time. Make sure that you store it properly. Here's a simple trick on how to store it: use two large socks and fit the pair of tactical boots inside each one to keep it from accumulating dust.

# Washing

More often than not, tactical boots are either waterproof or semi-waterproof. The easiest way to clean them is to soak them in water with soap. Then, use an old toothbrush or any kind of brush to scrub them and get rid of accumulated dirt and debris.



# Drying

After washing your tactical boots, the best method of drying them is to take off the laces, pull the tongue out, and remove the insoles. You can then place them under the sun to air-dry, but since they are heavy-duty, you can also use your dryer for faster drying. Just make sure your dryer can handle them!

#### Break-In

Without regular use, your tactical boots may turn rigid if you leave them by the shelf for months. To keep that from happening, make sure to break them in and take them for a run every once in a while. Doing this will help maintain their comfortable quality.

# Conclusion

The world has so much to offer, and it's only waiting for you to explore the various areas that hold the most beautiful sceneries. Sadly, it can also be a cruel place, which is why we need law enforcement personnel to keep order and peace for harmonious living.

Whichever the case, it's a lot harder to achieve any of them without having the best pair of tactical boots on your feet. We've prepared this short guide for you to get a better idea of how important and adaptable tactical boots are. After all, we're counting on them to keep us safe. Consider it as our pay-back for the service they've done.

This handbook contains the essentials you'll ever need to know about tactical boots. If we weren't able to answer your questions here, or if you still wish to learn more about tactical boots, don't ever hesitate about going to our <u>website</u>. We have all kinds of articles and reviews there that answer all queries about tactical boots, which you will definitely need to march your way to victory.