

# BACKPACK **SAFETY** TIPS



Your backpack should not be wider than your torso. The shoulder strap anchor points shouldn't extend beyond one to twoinches below the top of your shoulders. And the bottom of your bag shouldn't extend any further than one to two inches below your waist line.

When fastening the straps, they should fit snugly to the torso/shoulders.

### **DITCH THE UNNECESSARY** WEIGHT

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Experts at ATI recommend carrying no more than 10-15% of your body weight in the bag.

It's important to wear both shoulder straps as well as the waist strap to help balance weight distribution.

Only throwing one strap over the shoulder will offset your center of balance, which will increase the likelihood of lower and upper back pain and strain to your shoulders and neck.



For more tips on backpack safety visit *atipt.com/backpacksafety* 

## **STRAP IN**



Choose a backpack with wide, padded adjustable shoulder straps and a padded back panel to help minimize direct pressure on the back.



#### **PACK WITH A PURPOSE**

Choose a backpack with multiple compartments to help balance the load. Be sure to pack the heavier items lower and towards the center of the bag – near your center of gravity.



#### POSITIONING **IS KEY**

When carrying items, be sure to have the pack fit snugly against your body to reduce unwanted swaying, shifting of your items, or friction to your skin.

