

INTERVIEW

Joshua Tree Products – Interview with Sonnie Trotter

Canadian rock climbing professional from Squamish, BC. Sonnie has established some of the most difficult routes in North America, including his iconic first free ascent of Cobra Crack rated at 5.14 (thats hard!).

How often do you use Joshua Tree Climbing Salve?

Well that depends on where I am. If I'm on a climbing trip I'll use it everyday, especially if I'm in a desert climate, places like Moab, Utah or Bishop, Cal. They tend to dry out the skin more quickly than climbers would like and if I'm on a trip, I want to climb everyday... Joshua Tree Salve makes that possible.

When do you use it? Before climbing, during, after, all of the above?

Sometimes I'll put it on early in the morning, before a big day. It doesn't leave you with an oily feeling like other salves, the skin is hungry for this stuff and it absorbs well. But most of the time, I'll apply it once directly after climbing, once around dinner time and then once more after dinner, usually while drinking a cold beer around a campfire, that's a nice ritual to have.

Why are hand salves important to use while climbing?

To help my grip during my rock climbs, I use chalk. Climbers use chalk the same way gymnasts use it. The magnesium helps to keep our hands dry and free of moisture, thus allowing better contact to the stone. The problem is that chalk will dry out your skin and the rock will sometimes scrape you up and leave

you feeling a little scrappy. J-Tree Salve reverses the damage almost overnight, allowing me to climb with 100 percent commitment the next day.

What do you like about this particular salve over others you've tried?

Before I even put the salve on my skin, I wanted to read its ingredient content. J-Tree Salve is a holistic product. It contains all natural ingredients and they are deeply concerned about every step of the process, from agriculture to the packaging. I resonated with this, and as a climber and outdoor enthusiast, the environment is a mandatory element. I could go on about

its healing properties over other salves, but I think it's easier to just say that "IT WORKS".

Do you feel you get any other kind of personal benefit from it?

J-Tree can be used for nearly anything skin related. Many people use the products for insect bites, rashes, cuts and scrapes. Sunburn is a big one and now J-Tree has a lip balm that is practically essential for all climbers and outdoor lovers. Also, I benefit because I feel good about supporting them, they are doing it right, for the best reasons, and that's good enough for me.

