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SPECTRUM

High and Dry

STYLISH SNEAKER-BOOT HYBRIDS THAT KEEP YOUR FEET HAPPY ALL WINTER LONG

by Peter Koch

Vans SK8-Hi MTE \$85

The MTE stands for Mountain Edition, a hint that this skater high-top is for more than popping ollies. A Scotchgard-treated leather and suede upper and an insulated liner keep the cold out, and the vulcanized sole offers beefy traction.



Ridgemont Outfitters Heritage \$159

The Heritage may be inspired by the rigid alpine footwear of yesteryear, but it has an easy-walking outsole—flexible in the forefoot for comfort, stiffer from arch to heel for stability. Throw in a waterproof membrane and it's not so backward-looking after all.



Lowa Seattle GTX Qc \$210

With a Gore-Tex liner and Lowa's ingenious footbed—every step expels heat and moisture from tiny perforations in the cuff—this sophisticated leather- and wool-trimmed brogan prevents damp toes.



Merrell Sugarbush Waterproof \$230

Named for the maple groves filling the Vermont valley where Merrell was born 35 years ago, the Sugarbush melds the latest tech (a waterproof layer, breathable antimicrobial lining, and grippy Vibram outsole) with a timeless look.



Tretorn Gill \$120

A cross between a high-top canvas sneaker and a weatherproof duck boot, the Gill benefits from Tretorn's European legacy and century-plus of design experience. Those combine in an understated street shoe that can slog through slush and puddles without letting in a drop.



Forsake Trail \$150

The Trail was made for flirting with dirt, with chunky directional lugs, a debris-shedding gusseted tongue, and a waterproof membrane. But unlike traditional hikers, this leather and suede beauty has undeniable urban style and the soft ride of a plush EVA midsole.

