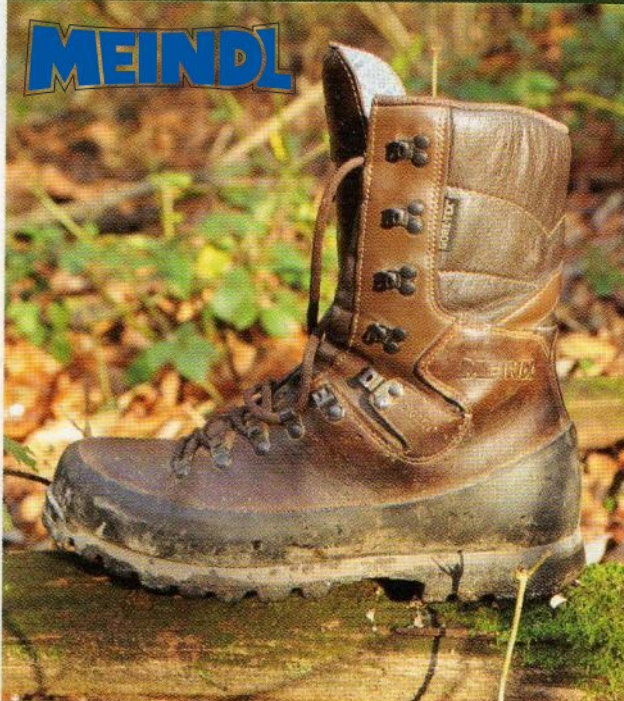


## KIT BAG: MEINDL OVER MATTER



Two broken ankles, torn ligaments and a persistent Achilles problem over the last couple of years have made coping with the brutal terrain of the open hill a frequently painful problem. I'd tried several boots that had been fine in the south, but none could offer the support and protection I required – not to mention keep my feet warm and dry.

I spoke to many experts about this and one brand name kept cropping up time and again: Meindl. These top quality hand-made German boots are the choice of many professional hunters around the world – my guide in the Lakes among them. I opted for the Dovre Extreme GTX, a high-leg hunting boot with a full Gore-Tex lining.

They were comfortable from day one without any real need for breaking in, much to my surprise. The Vibram sole gripped even on the steepest and slipperiest of slopes while the boots also feature a high rubber band which protects the leather from abrasion on rocky terrain and further improves waterproof properties.

For the first time, I had dry feet for the whole week – despite occasional torrential rain – and better still, I had no grief whatsoever from my troublesome ankle. I only wish I'd bought a pair years ago.