

By: Eric Walton

In our Fall 2014 issue, we tested the first iteration of the UKoala Bag, providing our take on this very interesting combination purse, backpack and unisex fanny/hip/tool pack.

Long-term Update

To date, the original UKoala Bag we tested is still the every day carry bag of choice for the big Freek's wife, it's that solidly built and versatile.

The big Freek has also used the bag as a hip-mounted tool pouch in the garage and a carry-all on hikes.

Using it as a hip bag takes a little getting used to exactly because you've never done anything like it before. Riding around in our CJ wearing the hip bag is a tad difficult because of the limited available legroom, but it's more reasonable in our JK or any other larger vehicle.

New Bags and Designs

When UKoala came back to us saying that they'd made numerous improvements and offered additional models, many including an even better ability to carry a concealed firearm, we knew we had to check them out. Whether you carry a handgun or not, there's enough cool new features in the UKoala bags to merit a second look.



The hip pouch configuration is unique and incredibly functional.

Construction and Materials

What really won over testers of both the original and new UKoala bags is the incredibly overbuilt construction. From the heavy-duty nylon and cotton canvas on the versions we tested (they also offer leather and synthetic suede), to the seriously thick leather trim, to the heavy snaps and buckles, to the beefy-looking stitching — absolutely everything about this bag screams long-lasting.

The new bags we received are the “Yukon,” which are their largest size. The largest pocket has a Velcro patch that allows attachment of any

Velcro-backed holster and the bag is easily large enough to hold a Hi Point .45 without a magazine, which is a super-bulky pistol. If it holds that, you know you're likely good with any typical EDC pistol. UKoala lists dozens of different guns on their site so you can order a custom holster.

The multiple small pockets let you tailor your load however you like and there's plenty of room for cargo even with a pistol on board.

The ability to wear the bag on your hip makes for a perfect carry position for drawing your weapon and the main flap keeps prying eyes and hands away even while you have the zipper on the pocket open for easier access if the need arises.

UKoala calls their bag “the best little bag on the planet” and we're inclined to agree. The versatility and durability make them the perfect companion for Jeep and outdoor adventure.

Source:

UKoala



We even got a Hi Point .45 into the main pouch. We had to pull the magazine to close the zipper, but any “normal” size pistol is sure to fit.