

# Guarantee

Wild Country guarantees the 360 for 3 years against faults in materials or manufacture.

Exclusions from this guarantee: Normal wear and tear, modifications or alterations. Damage resulting from poor care and maintenance, accidents, improper or incorrect usage.

Size: Small

Size: 48cm - 56cm / 18.5 in - 22in

Weight: 350 gms / 12.35 oz

Size: Standard

Size: 53cm - 61cm / 21in - 24in

Weight: 360 gms / 12.7 oz

UIAA 106

EN CE 12492:2000



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# 360°

# User Guide



# 360 The safety revolution begins here...

*A classic, stylish, superstrong cross-season performer, the 360 helmet has been designed to provide the highest levels of all round protection. Utilising Wild Country's 'Extended EPS System' – the 360 offers market leading front, side and rear impact protection, making it one of the safest helmets available.*

**Background** - Wild Country's research into this category revealed that whilst many 'hard shell' helmets offered good impact protection on top, few, if any (though all passing relevant CE tests) provided equally good side impact protection. Thus, when we brainstormed the 360 concept against other current models, as well as the CE drop test standards, it quickly became obvious that with the 360 we could and should be able to aim higher.

**Concept** - The objective of the 360 project was therefore; to create a helmet that would provide the true 'all round' head protection that real world climbers need, in a stylish, durable, lightweight package; and in the process exceed the CE test requirements.

**Innovation** - Built with safety in mind the 360's superb testing pedigree is one of its major attributes. This is due to Wild Country's 'Extended EPS' system taking the shock absorbing foam found inside the helmet, and skilfully moulding it further down around the climber's head to maximise protection without interfering with fit or function. It is this strategic placement of foam that gives the 360 its outstanding strength and test results - results that far exceed the CE requirement.

However, this extra strength doesn't incur a weight penalty, nor is fit compromised, and the 360 remains a lightweight choice within its class. Created to act as a cross-season all rounder, and perfectly at home in full winter conditions, the 360 is a reliable and fully featured model that will be at home on first forays out or longer expeditions away.

Well thought out, the inner cradle adjusts quickly and simply and locks solidly via a glove friendly 'Quik-Dial' system. It fits snugly with or without a balaclava or under a hood and sits on adjustable, cushioned EVA pads. Finally the 360's two sizes cover a wide range of head sizes and can be used from the early teens (or before) to give any budding rock stars the protection they need on their first steps in the vertical world..

A safety conscious, go anywhere, do anything all rounder with a strong sense of style, an excellent fit and a price tag that protects the wallet; the 360 redefines polycarbonate performance.

The 360 helmet's strength, safety and fit make it



a superb all rounder and a great choice.

**Features:** Lightweight best in class Polycarb/EPS helmet with Extended EPS protection, Quik-Dial glove friendly adjustable sizing, Adjustable EVA cushioned head-hugging inner pads, Nexus Acetal (better in low temps) quick release chin strap buckle, Smooth 16mm nylon chin strap, Four easy fit Acetal torch grips, Hood friendly sizing for winter wear, 3 Stylish colour choices, Emergency inner sticker, Storage bag, Two sizes - Small & Standard to fit children and adults.

CE 12492:2000 / UIAA 106 / 3 Sigma rated.

# 360° The 'Extended EPS' revolution turns up the heat on the opposition.....

One of the keys of the 360's design was to try to surpass CE norms in terms of the front, side and rear impacts - to make a safer helmet and provide more protection across more of the head. To understand why this seemed essential to us, and should be important to everyone, it's worth seeing how the current tests work.

In the current CE/UIAA regime every helmet is tested in the following way. Utilising an approved test rig at an approved test house, three types of weight are dropped from pre-determined heights at prescribed points onto a number of 'conditioned' helmets placed on a 'head form'.

1. Impact test - A 5kg rounded weight is dropped from 2m twice, 10cm apart, in the centre of the helmet. Impact force measured must be less than 10kN CE or 8kN UIAA.
2. Impact test - A 5kg flat bottomed weight is dropped from 50cm at 4 points at the front, sides and rear of the helmet. Impact force measured must be less than 10kN CE or 8kN UIAA. (Note: the lower the figure recorded the better)
3. Penetration test - A 3kg pointed weight is dropped from 1m in the centre of the top of the helmet. No mark must be seen in a 'putty' which is placed in the 'head form'.

So, surprisingly for a sport that's realm is steep cliffs, sheer drops and exposure, one that requires a head for heights; the test drop heights for the head gear that we rely on in these circumstances can seem a little underwhelming. Even a layman might guess that when you're 1000ft up El Cap, with 2000ft above, a falling object may come from further than the 50cm of the current Side, Front and Rear tests! However, these lab tests do have their purpose, they set a baseline to help compare products. Yet it needs to be recognised they also have their limitations, for example what if the baselines they help compare aren't set at a high enough level? The picture they can give may be misleading. And to our eye the dichotomy in the differing drop test heights between very close points in the current test is the perfect example of this. Basically, how come the 5kN central impact test is from 2m yet can be as little as 10cm away from a place where it's deemed a 50cm drop suffices?

In this case it's as if the test was designed not knowing how climbing works, imagining all climbers as 'stiff necked Joes' that climb with their heads upright and necks straight – ignoring the fact for example, that when 'below' is screamed, indicating an object is hurtling down, the automatic response is to bend, not to stiffen up! And in that case where's the rock going to hit? Certainly not dead centre!

And to follow this through, this would allow helmets to be built that were fine with a 'direct hit', but could lack substance if not hit where the tests stipulate they must be toughest. Yet as a buyer unaware of the testing regime how can one know which will do what?

It was for these reasons that we determined that the 360 should be designed to provide true, real world protection, not merely made to pass tests, but to greatly exceed them. So we raised the bar by raising the weights: achieving the CE standard at four times (or 200% over) the height required for the Side, Front and Rear tests: achieving 150% higher (2.5m) than needed in the Penetration test: as well as adding in penetration passes at Side, Front & Rear at 1m.

So in designing the 360, the most important issue for Wild Country was to be able to provide a product that, like all our hardware, is built to be as safe and functional as possible rather than aimed at passing tests. And with the 360 we have done that, proving our Extended EPS system by surpassing the CE tests and creating a stronger, safer helmet.

## 360 - the revolution begins

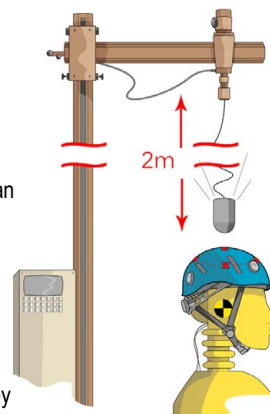


Fig 1 - The 2m drop test takes place at the top of the helmet with a 5kg rounded weight.

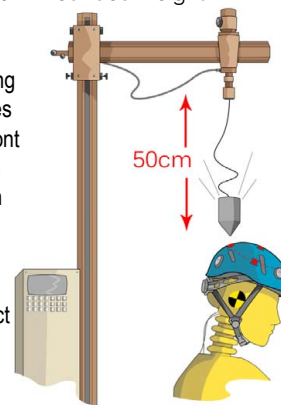


Fig 2 - Only a small distance away the rear, front and sides drop test is 5kg from 50cm.

# 360°

## The revolution begins

# 360°

Vented for summer cooling.

Full strength polycarbonate outer.

Extended EPS inner - protects lower & better.

Acetal plastic torch grips - easy to use & best for low temps.

WILD COUNTRY

Quik Dial glove friendly size adjustment - easy to use and solid.

Easy slide strap adjusters.

Nexus acetal clips, best in low temperatures.

Smooth Nylon webbing gives strength and durability.

EPP chin guard, protects against rubbing.

The 360 helmet comes in two sizes and four stylish shades.



You can get more info on the 360 helmet at [www.wildcountry.co.uk](http://www.wildcountry.co.uk)

## Helmet Fitting

Like all helmets it is essential that the 360 helmet is secure on the head before any climbing is commenced. To fit the 360 helmet effectively for the first time there are three main adjustments that should be made.

The first two of these are on the webbing part of the helmet's cradle and are instrumental in altering the vertical - or top to bottom - fit of the helmet. The third of these, the rear Quik-Dial adjustment (see over) finalizes the fit by adjusting the horizontal (front to back) fit.

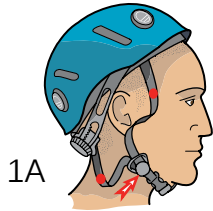
Adjusting the side straps - These two straps, marked on diagram 1A with red dots, are easily adjusted by the use of the plastic slider marked with the arrow. Simply grip the webbing below the slider, as well as the slider and pull the slider up the webbing until both straps are snug. At this point the plastic slider will probably be located just under the ears.

Adjusting the chin straps - Once the side straps have been adjusted for the first time, the chin strap can be clicked together and then tightened by pulling the extra webbing. See diagram 2A.

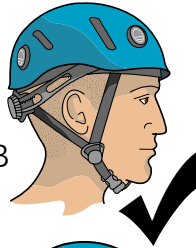
At this point it is best to quickly check that the side straps that were altered previously are still tight and correctly positioned.

If not, this time with the chin strap done up, simply make the alterations needed by adjusting the slider then re-tighten the chinstrap.

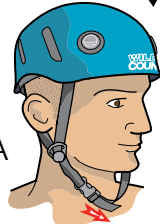
In general once you have adjusted the side straps for your head, then you shouldn't need to alter them again, unless of course you are fitting a balaclava or hat.



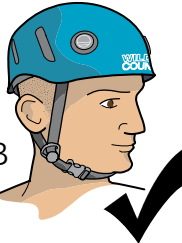
1A



1B



2A



2B

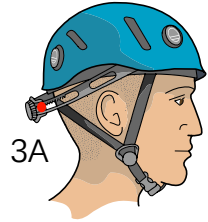
## Helmet Adjustment - Rear

The rear of the 360 helmet is simple to adjust with it's Quik-Dial adjustment system. Adjusting this part of the cradle alters the helmet front to back gripping the rear of the head and the forehead.

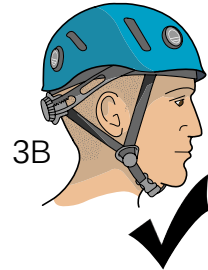
To adjust the Quik-Dial, first of all find, at the rear of the helmet, the round plastic dial marked with a red dot on diagram 3A.

To Tighten - simply locate the 'dial' and gently push and turn it clockwise at the same time. A clicking sound will be heard as the Quik-Dial ratchets and tightens the cradle and the helmet will tighten on the head.

To Loosen - simply do the opposite of the above - so while gently pushing the dial, turn it anti-clockwise and the cradle will open out.



3A



3B

## Helmet Inspection and Cleaning

### Immediately Before Use

Verify before each use that the interior and the exterior of the shell are not cracked or deformed, that the headband attachment system is not damaged and that the chinstrap buckles are working properly.

### Cleaning

First rinse the product in clean, cold water of domestic supply quality. If still soiled rinse in warm water, max 40°C with pure soap. Thoroughly rinse and dry naturally in a warm, ventilated room away from direct heat.

### Sea Water

It is essential that this equipment is cleaned as soon as is practical after exposure to seawater or any saline environment e.g. when used on sea cliffs.



## Headtorch Fitting

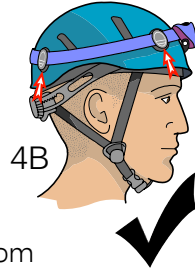
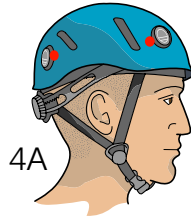
The 360 helmet has a very simple but effective system for fitting a headtorch.

First, locate the 4 flexible plastic flaps, two either side of the helmet - marked with red dots in diagram 4A.

Second, take your headtorch and adjust the headband so that it is tensioned to be a slightly smaller circumference than the size of the helmet at the point of the flaps.

Third, starting with the two rear flaps, lift the flaps and place the band of the headtorch underneath. Then, after making sure the torch is central on the front of the helmet, raise the front two flaps and slide the headband under those too. See diagram 4B.

Finally give the helmet a quick shake to make sure the torch is securely in place before setting off.



## Mountain Safety - some general tips from the UK Mountain Rescue service.

Always plan your day before setting out!

Consider the equipment, experience, capabilities and enthusiasm of the party members. Check the weather forecast and local conditions; mountains can be major undertakings. Night encroaches early in winter and the further north you go! Learn first aid. Always try to leave notice of where you are going. Many accidents occur towards the latter part of the day when your energy levels are low. Carry spare food, especially hi-energy bars.

A map, compass (and the ability to use them), and at least one reliable watch in the party should always be carried.

In all conditions, it is wise to carry a whistle, torch, spare batteries and bulbs; but in winter conditions, an ice-axe, crampons and survival bag are essential.

Remember your emergency signals, use six whistle blasts or torch flashes.

It is no disgrace to turn back if you are not certain and a party must be governed by the capabilities of the weakest member.

## Warning

Climbing and mountaineering are hazardous.

Even correct selection, maintenance and use of correct equipment cannot eliminate potential for danger, serious injury or death.

It is the user's responsibility at all times to ensure the correct and safe use of any equipment supplied by Wild Country, to use it only for the purposes for which it is designed and to practise all proper safety procedures.

The manufacturer will not accept responsibility for damage, injury or death resulting from misuse.

## Also available from Wild Country:



The Alpine Shield is the worlds first true modular climbing helmet - giving extra stone and icefall protection at the turn of a screw. The Alpine Shield's modular ability sets it apart and makes it the first choice for mixmasters.



The Rock Lite is stylish and strong and aimed at those with a pure rock agenda who want to climb fast and light.

