

**Gear Guide** || **ADVICE**



## Ask the Gear Guy

Our in-house expert **ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS** about the best equipment for your active life. *By Paul Hochman*

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO [GEARGUY@MENSJOURNAL.COM](mailto:GEARGUY@MENSJOURNAL.COM)

### THE WORLD'S TOUGHEST PADLOCK

*When I returned from my summer vacation I discovered that a thief had broken into my boathouse and stolen too much stuff to even mention. I want a highly dependable lock. What's your recommendation?*



**SERIOUS SECURITY**  
A Model 833 series padlock isn't a normal consumer product, hence its \$1,400 price tag.

For maximum security look for locks with shrouded shackles, additional hardened layers that protect the U-shape component. Criminals look for quick and easy entrées, and a shroud will hopefully make them look elsewhere, since sawing through two layers takes, well, twice as long as sawing through one. Master Lock's 6321 Pro series, for example, features locks with laminated steel bodies and hardened boron alloy shackles, which are resistant to even the toughest bolt cutters (*from \$28; masterlock.com*). Still worried about your boathouse? Turn to Sargent and Greenleaf. While locksmiths there were developing the 833 High Security Padlock for the government 17 years ago, they invited a marine to give it a "15-minute test." Simply put, he got rough with it for the allotted time. Yet the 833 stymied him. Because of the lock's extreme resistance to forced entry, the U.S. Navy ordered them by the truckload, but the 149-year-old company keeps the locks' fabrication as close as a military secret. The ugly, completely sheathed, shatterproof body and

shackle are made from what the firm will only say are "exotic barrier materials." You can't buy the exact military model, but you can get a consumer version for \$1,387.61; find a distributor at [sglocks.com](http://sglocks.com).

PAUL HOCHMAN, an MJ contributing editor, appears regularly on NBC's Today show.