

WEAR-TEST REPORT

A strong update for New Balance's Minimus trail offering, the V2 is 15 percent lighter than the first version, and our test team found it fit better, too, feeling sock-like. With its low-to-the-ground profile, the Minimus retains its minimal character and discourages heel striking, which can leave those unaccustomed to minimal footwear with lower leg soreness, especially if used for longer runs. But our testers gravitated toward it for shorter trail runs when they wanted to feel the trail and "dance over" the terrain.

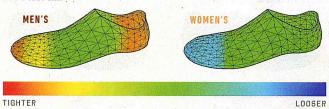


PERFORMANCE PROFILE

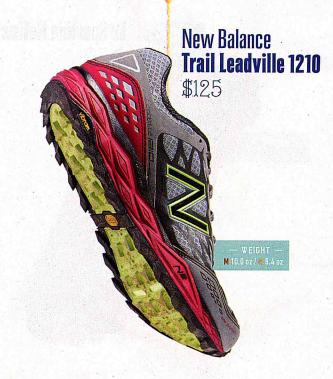
FLEXIBILITY: HEEL CUSHIONING: FOREFOOT CUSHIONING:		Q 87
	LOW OB TOP	HIGH
	LOW Q 5	HIGH
	LOW	HIGH

SIMILAR MODELS IN PERFORMANCE: inov-8 Trailroc 150, Merrell Sonic Glove/Lithe Glove, La Sportiva X Country

FIT PROFILE



SIMILAR MODELS IN FIT: Patagonia EVERmore, Pearl Izumi EM Tri N1, Merrell Bare Access 2



WEAR-TEST REPORT

A departure from NB's minimalist off-road efforts, the Leadville is much more shoe. It hearkens back to the days of the best-selling 801, a sort of lightweight SUV for the trails with an aggressive Vibram outsole. Befitting the Leadville 100 course, which is run largely on tamer terrain, the 1210 performed well on road and jeep trails, and our testers said great things about the comfort and pliability of the upper materials, although some had difficulty with security and heel slippage. The amount of cushioning was exceptional, so thick that it compromised flexibility and detracted from the 1210's performance on technical singletrack or during any fast-paced running.

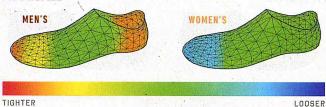
HEEL HEIGHT 36.2 mm - FOREFOOT HEIGHT 25.2 mm = HEEL-TOE DROP 11.0 mi

PERFORMANCE PROFILE

FLEXIBILITY: HEEL CUSHIONING: FOREFOOT CUSHIONING:	- Φ6			
	LOW		Q 64	HIGH
	LOW		Q 69	HIGH
	LOW		Service (1995)	HIGH

SIMILAR MODELS IN PERFORMANCE: Salomon Speedcross 3, ASICS GEL-Instinct33, Brooks Cascadia 8

FIT PROFILE



SIMILAR MODELS IN FIT: Montrail Bajada, Merrell Mix Master Glide, ASICS GEL-Excel33