

Stay Standing With Icer's

If you've ever slipped on ice and fallen hard, you should have had this product. If you want to avoid such a mishap, you need it fast. You install traction products on your sled to gain more control and you can do the same for your feet with Icer's. These anti-skid, detachable safety soles attach to the bottom of your shoes or boots and provide the best pedestrian traction on ice I've ever experienced.



That makes Icer's ideal for snowmobilers to get around slippery driveways and parking lots while trying to work on your sled, or load and unload from your trailer. This winter, I've kept a pair in my tow vehicle that have saved my bacon several times in icy conditions. I also have a pair at the cottage that gave me mobility after an ice storm. Probably great for ice fishing or winter jogging, too...if I ever find the time or inclination for either!

I've tried several other so-called "ice cleats", but the Canadian-made Icer's beat them all, hands (or should I say, feet) down. First, the Icer's sole is a very durable piece of flexible but hard rubber with studs, sort of like a studded tire. The Icer's sole attaches easily to the bottom of your own footwear with fully adjustable Velcro straps...no fighting and tugging to get on as with flimsy rubber pull-on-style cleats. Second, Icer's Velcro straps at toe and ankle securely fasten and cradle your foot, making Icer's fit like a part of you for good walking stability. Third, Icer's provide an additional layer of insulation between your foot and that cold ice. Fourth, Icer's are also very easy to take off...even with one hand, which is great is you're lugging something. And finally, the screw-in Icer's cleats are replaceable, so one pair will last a very long time. I highly recommend Icer's as part of your winter kit - just make sure you buy a pair to fit the *outside* dimensions of your winter boot soles! Icer's are priced at \$36.95 a pair; to locate a retailer near you, click on www.icers.nb.ca

Eliminate Darting



Quebec is arguably the birthplace of snowmobiling, so it's no surprise that La Belle Province also gives us the Cobra Head Anti-Darting unit. This 20" long or so gold coloured piece of fabricated metal replaces the conventional carbide runners on your skis. The front section of each Cobra Head is curved like your ski bottom, with a flat lower surface that slides easily over the snow

and smoothes over any previous carbide tracks. From about the middle and ending near the back of each Cobra Head bar is a conventional looking carbide. In combination, the two sections do an exceptional job of eliminating most darting, making for steady, reliable forward progress minus the unexpected and unsettling sudden jerking from skis caught in old ruts. Made to fit all OEM skis, the Cobra Head units come with carbides suitable for every style of riding from family to extreme. My preference for touring is the intermediate (product #B08-220-06). Cobras retail for \$135 to \$160 (depending on the amount of carbide.) Find out more, including where to buy, at www.qualipieces.com.

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By Craig Nicholson,
The Intrepid Snowmobiler



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