

Boots and crampons compatibility		C1 crampon	C2 crampon	C3 crampon
		Flexible heel & toe cradles. Fastened with webbing straps. Often have 10 points. Used for UK winter hill walking and glacier traverses	Semi-flexible crampon with flexible toe cradle & plastic heel lever. Tend to have sharper front points. All-rounders. Used for winter scrambles, climbing & alpinism	Stiff crampons with step-in system with plastic heel lever & metal toe bar. Usually have 12 or 14 points. Used for ice climbing & technical mountaineering
B0 boot	Very flexible soles, usually with soft uppers. Not designed for crampons, but can be used with very flexible C1s or micro spikes for low-level winter walks	OK if the crampons have a very flexible bar	no	no
B1 boot	Some stiffness in mid-sole, but normally light, flexible and comfortable	Yes - ideal combination for winter walking, and at a pinch may do for very easiest mountaineering routes	No - nothing on the boot for the heel lever to work against	No - nothing on the boot for the heel lever to work against
B2 boot	More rigidity in the sole, better performance on mountaineering ground. Great for more full-on mountain days all year round - I use B2s for scrambling and rock climbing up to about VS 4c, and winter climbing up to Grade IV	yes	Yes - B2/C2 good for serious Scottish winter walking, low to mid-grade winter climbing, and summer Alpine mountaineering	no
B3 boot	For steep ice, rock and mixed climbing, & serious mountaineering. Much stiffer sole unit and stiff uppers, great support on steep ground, but not so comfortable on hard flat surfaces.	yes	yes	Yes - heel and toe ledges on the boot, and stiffness of sole, allow for easy fitting of C3 crampons