



L.L.Bean®

[Our COVID-19 Response](#) [Learn More](#)

[Home](#) / [Customer Service](#) / [Company Information](#)

Company Information

L.L.Bean has been delivering classic styles, outdoor gear and expert advice for over 100 years. Founded in 1912 by Leon Leonwood Bean, the company began as a one-man operation. Guided by L.L.'s belief in keeping customers satisfied, the company has grown to a global organization with annual sales of \$1.6 billion. Our company headquarters are in Freeport, Maine, just down the road from our original store.

[2016 Company Fact Sheet \(PDF\)](#)

Sales

L.L.Bean is a privately held, family-owned company. We do not release financial and operational information beyond what you will find here and do not produce an annual report.

Direct Sales

Launched in 1995, llbean.com is among the top-rated e-commerce sites in the industry. Customers can shop thousands of products, book a course with our Outdoor Discovery Schools®, locate a nearby park, find store information and much more. We are continually enhancing our website to provide a first-class customer experience.

In 2015, we also mailed over 50 different catalogs to customers in every state and over 170 countries.

Retail Stores

L.L.Bean's retail stores allow customers to experience the company's unsurpassed customer service firsthand, with a friendly staff that's always ready to help – whether it's choosing the right product or finding the perfect fly-fishing spot.

The 200,000 square-foot flagship store is located in Freeport, Maine, on the original site where L.L. opened his shop in 1917. Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the store draws close to 3 million visitors each year, with unique features that include an indoor trout pond and a 3,500-gallon freshwater aquarium that replicates a 25-foot-long section of streambed. The seven-acre retail campus is also home to L.L.Bean's Hunting & Fishing Store, Bike, Boat & Ski Store, and Home store.

L.L.Bean also has 27 retail stores outside of Maine, as well as 10 outlets, with new stores opening each year.

All our retail locations host a variety of special events, clinics and demonstrations throughout the year.

Outdoor Adventures

Since 1979, our Outdoor Discovery Schools have helped customers enjoy outdoor activities and learn new skills. Programs range from a few hours to multiday trips, and include kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, fly casting and fishing, clay shooting, archery, biking, snowshoeing, canoeing and more. Over 150,000 people participated in programs in 2015.

Business to Business Sales

L.L.Bean Direct to Business offers quality L.L.Bean products and gift cards to corporate customers for group outfitting, special events, customer recognition and employee rewards. It offers easy ordering and logo setup, expert personalization and generous volume discounts.

International Business

L.L.Bean opened its first international retail store in Tokyo in 1992 and now operates 23 stores and outlets in Japan, where L.L.Bean Boots and Boat and Tote Bags are always popular. Our vibrant direct channel business in Japan includes a dedicated website, contact center and distribution center.

L.L.Bean also has a large and growing customer base in Canada.

L.L.Bean catalogs are sent to over 170 countries. Our global website serves over 200 countries and territories. Product prices are converted into over 60 currencies, and accurate tax and duty calculations are provided.

Products

L.L.Bean products are recognized around the world for their functional, innovative design and high quality. Today, over 140,000 items are available, including many that have been favorites for several decades, such as the Field Coat (1924), Chamois Shirt (1928) and Boat and Tote® Bag (1944). We also offer our Signature Collection, featuring updated classics with a streamlined fit and a dose of inspiration from the company's archives.

Whether it's a fly rod or rain jacket, every product we sell is an opportunity for innovation, research and testing. "Our company founder, L.L., was adamant about testing each and every product to ensure it stood up to his rigid standards and of course his guarantee," explains company President Steve Smith. "To this day, employees throughout the company continue to rigorously test our products in the field. It not only ensures we maintain top quality, but it lets us walk in our customers' shoes, giving us a better perspective on their needs, wants and experiences. In addition, we have our own in-house, state-of-the-art testing laboratory, we utilize third-party testers and we use a small army of field testers throughout the world."

Operations

Workforce

In 2015, L.L.Bean employed over 5,000 people year-round. During the busy winter holidays that number nearly doubled to 10,000.

Customer Service

While doing business today might differ from doing business in 1912, the philosophy of the company has not changed. As Leon Gorman, late Chairman of the Board, stated, "A lot of people have fancy things to say about customer service, but it's just a day-in, day-out, ongoing, never-ending, persevering, compassionate kind of activity."

L.L.Bean President Steve Smith shares this way of thinking. "Our commitment to superior customer service is the very foundation of our brand. L.L. introduced the company's Golden Rule, which is 'Sell good merchandise at a reasonable profit, treat customers like human beings and they'll always come back for more.' Leon strengthened that philosophy by making our customers stakeholders of the business. That sentiment and commitment is as strong today as it ever was. In an increasingly competitive industry and ever-evolving marketplace, L.L.Bean still stands out as the benchmark for customer service." The Customer Satisfaction department, based right here in Maine, operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Nearly 2,900 customer service representatives were employed during the 2015 holiday season, answering more than 117,000 calls on their busiest day in December.

L.L.Bean's reputation for outstanding customer service is frequently reinforced by direct feedback from our customers.

Social Media

L.L.Bean maintains a strong social media presence on sites including

Distribution

Our expanded order fulfillment center in Freeport processes an average of 50,000 customer orders a day and can store over 10 million units of merchandise. The hub of our distribution operations is a 1 million-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility. In 2015, we shipped over 15.5 million packages – including over 1 million during our busiest week alone.

Manufacturing

L.L.Bean uses cookies and the information you provide to us at check-out to improve our website's functionality, analyze how customers use our website, and to provide more relevant advertising. You can read more in our [privacy policy](#).

If you consent to this use please click "I agree."

I agree

