

## Mountain Madness: Episode 2

# Crevice & Crevasse: What is the Difference?

by International Mountain Connection

Hi, I'm Michelle Onofrey with International Mountain Connection.

Welcome to episode 2 of Mountain Madness. In this episode, I'm going to talk about the difference between crevice and crevasse. These are two words that are used incorrectly by non-native English speakers and native English speakers, but why?

Well, there are a lot of similarities between these two words. When you look at the words, the beginning is the same. C-R-E-V. Crevice...crevasse.

And when you hear the words, it is difficult because they are so similar. Crevice... Crevasse...Crevice...Crevasse.... Do you hear the difference? With crevice, there is an accent at the beginning of the word...crevice...crevice... But with crevasse, the accent is at the end of the word. Crevasse....Crevasse. Crevice... Crevasse...Crevice...Crevasse Do you hear the difference?

Okay, the third main reason it's difficult with these two words is because they both are talking about a crack, or a fissure, or a break in something.

So, let's talk about crevice. Crevice is a crack or a break, but in rock. And that is probably the most important thing to remember, we are talking about rock. So if you are a rock climber, you will be very happy if there are crevices on the route, because maybe you can put your foot inside a crevice and you can reach up to the next hand hold.

Now, technically, you can use your fingers or your hands to climb using a crevice, but personally, I do not like to do that. Because sometimes there are bugs inside. Bugs are insects. So, they can be ants or spiders, and sometimes, there are even lizards. So, yes, technically, we can use a crevice for climbing, but I don't like using my hands with one.

But a crevice can actually be much wider, and a hiker can fall in. If it's summertime, and they fall, it's usually because they slip or lose their balance. If it's wintertime, maybe there is snow over the crevice, so they don't see it and they fall in. So, a crevice can be really small, or it can be really big.

But the most important thing to remember is that a crevice is (found on) rock.

Okay?

Now, with a crevasse, we are talking about a glacier. And so, a glacier can be, the crevasse in the glacier can be very narrow and you can walk over the crevasse. And sometimes the crevasse is a little wider and you have to jump over the crevasse. And sometimes the crevasse is so wide that you can't go from one side to the other. But the most important thing to remember about a crevasse is that we are talking about a glacier.

So, with crevice, it is (on a) rock, and (with) crevasse we're talking about glaciers.

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I will see you next week. Buh-Bye!