



AAC Publications

Four Gables, Southeast Face, Shits and Glitters

California, Sierra Nevada, Eastern Sierra

Zach Lovell on one of the crux 5.10a pitches on Shits and Glitters, near the summit of Four Gables.

Photo by Sara Green

“Zach, we already thought of a name,” said my fiancée, Syd Knadler, as she manteled onto the summit plateau of Four Gables (ca 12,720'). “Shits and Glitters!” On top, Syd and Sara Green grinned as their face paint sparkled in the sun. As this was their first-ever first ascent, it only felt right for them to be in charge of route naming.

Following the six-mile approach from the Horton Lakes trailhead, we established Shits and Glitters (800', 7 pitches, 5.10a) on July 6, ascending clean panels of granite on the southeast aspect of the peak, with some scrambling to connect the lower and upper headwalls. [This face leads to the top of Four Gables; most technical routes on this massif climb the large east face leading to a higher point known as Four Gables South.] The best climbing came on the final pitches, with excellent cracks on a steepening shield. While the lengthy, nontechnical descent to the south and east took away the smiles of the glitter gals, I hope they'll only remember the good parts and will be game for another adventure soon.

— Zach Lovell

Images



Shits and Glitters (800', 7 pitches, 5.10a), on the southeast face of Four Gables, Eastern Sierra, California. The summit of Four Gables is just out of frame in the upper right-hand corner.



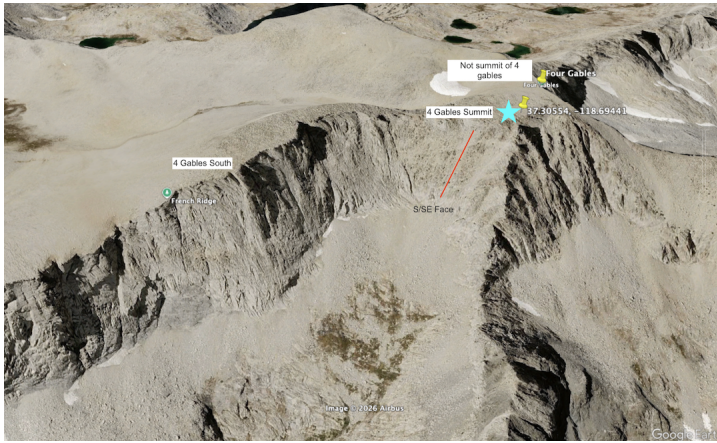
Zach Lovell leads a pitch low on the route during the first ascent of Shits and Glitters (800', 7 pitches, 5.10a).



Zach Lovell on one of the crux 5.10a pitches on Shits and Glitters, near the summit of Four Gables.



(Left to right) Zach Lovell, Sara Green, and Syd Knadler on the summit of Four Gables, sporting their glitter face paint.



Google Earth image showing the location of the new route Shits and Glitters, on the southeast face of Four Gables, in relation to the better-known point known as Four Gables South.

Article Details

Author	Zach Lovell
Publication	AAJ
Volume	67
Issue	100
Page	
Copyright Date	2026
Article Type	Climbs and expeditions