

VITAL-West Harlem is a very reliable place to go for rock climbing. It is nothing that is super special, but it definitely has everything you need and everything that you are looking for when looking for a place to climb. There are around 150 climbing in the facility, which is a very respectable amount, and to go with that the range of difficulty is very nice as well. There are a lot of easy climbs, so I would really recommend going here if you are a beginner, as there is a lot of v2-v3 climbs. If you are a fully new climber, never climbed before and are not that good at it, this place is an alright choice, but there are better options. For an intermediate level this could be a real confidence booster, and a good option for some quick, fun climbing, but a really good intermediate climber would find this place a little too easy. Overall the range of difficulty gets a 9.1 out of 10, a very good score. There is a downside to this place however, and it is sanitation. While most of the climbing areas are clean, when I went there, the bathroom had a liquid on the floor that I did not know the contents of, which really threw me off for a first impression of the place when getting changed. This prompted me to give it a 8.2 out of 10 for the sanitation rating. The price is alright, with it being 32 dollars in total for a session there, split up it is 25 for a day pass, 5 for shoes and 2 for chalk. I personally think that if the chalk is not free, you don't have to get it, because it only enhances your experience a little bit, and it is not really that necessary unless you are trying out some serious climbs. This place is very close to public transportation, with it being 350 feet from the subway, 240 from the bus and 400 from the citibike for an average distance of 330 feet. Overall, a great place to climb and would highly recommend.