



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#)

## Predominantly low avalanche danger, beware fresh snowdrift near the treeline

### AVALANCHE DANGER

In typical foehn lanes the danger level is moderate, elsewhere low. Avalanche prone locations are evident only in isolated cases, e.g. near the treeline in steep, shady, foehn exposed terrain the fresh snowdrift requires caution, it is easily triggered but easily recognized. Other danger zones are evident only in extremely steep west-northwest to north to east-northeast facing terrain where large additional loading can trigger snowslides, usually at the rims of gullies and bowls and in transitions from shallow to deep snow. They usually occur where the surface is hard, making the depth hoar beneath it hollow-sounding.

### SNOW LAYERING

Snow depths remain below average for this juncture of the season, bare slopes at low and intermediate altitudes, shallow snowpack on shady slopes, irregularly distributed above the treeline, heavily impacted by winds, highly varied snow quality, most often hard wind crusts, some of which break through to the ground; on sunny slopes melt-freeze crusts, some of which (on steep slopes at about 2000m) transform to firm during the day. Small nests of depth hoar may serve as bed surfaces for slab avalanches, especially on shady slopes at the treeline where the snow cover is often loosely packed down to the ground.

### ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: variable conditions, more sunshine before noon, variable visibility, initially diffuse, improving this afternoon. Mild and frequently foggy in South Tirol and between Ortler and Freiger, where minor, light snowfall is possible. Temperature at 2000 m: +2 degrees, at 3000 m -5 degrees. Moderate, in the Tux Alps and Main Alpine Ridge stronger westerly to southwesterly winds. Weather in general: A strong foehn current will persist until Wednesday, moist air masses accumulating in southern regions. Mild temperatures until Christmas.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally low danger continues, beware fresh snowdrift in shady treeline terrain.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe