



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#)

Heightened avalanche danger due to snowfall and wind

AVALANCHE DANGER

Some snowfall and wind are increasing avalanche danger levels in Tirol's backcountry touring regions, the main peril stemming from fresh, relatively small-sized snowdrift accumulations which will continue to form over the course of the day. Wherever this snowdrift has been deposited on top of loosely packed fresh fallen snow, avalanches can be released with relative ease, even the weight of one sole skier is sufficient. Avalanche prone locations are on wind loaded slopes and areas adjacent to ridgelines in all aspects above about 2000m. Transition areas from deep to shallow snow need to be evaluated with special caution as well. Frequency and spread of danger zones tend to increase with ascending altitude.

SNOW LAYERING

Snowfall began during the night throughout Tirol, the snowfall level dropping down to low lying areas. In the Kitzbühel Alps and along the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge the amount of fresh fallen snow was about 10 cm, in the remaining regions less. High altitude northerly to northwesterly winds were blowing at generally moderate velocity. Inside the old snowpack are often embedded crusts and faceted snow crystals in loosely packed layers, but area-wide weak layers are lacking.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather in general: a low over the Adriatic is bringing moist air masses from the south; at the same time, cold air is being shoved towards Tirol from the north, which is lowering the snowfall level. Tomorrow conditions will quiet down. On Sunday the next snowfall will arrive in Tirol. Mountain weather today: wintery conditions including snowfall, cold and fog. To begin with widespread snowfall is anticipated, this afternoon slackening off to showers in the northwestern barrier zones between Ausserfern and the Kitzbühel Alps, as well as East Tirol. Tonight the snowfall will taper off. All in all, the latest bout of snowfall will bring 15 cm to the Tauern and Kitzbühel Alps by Saturday morning (in addition to the snowfall from the night before last); elsewhere 5-10 cm. Temperature at 2000m: -7 degrees; at 3000m, -16 degrees. Moderate northwesterly to northerly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Continually rising avalanche danger where the snowfall is heaviest

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