



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.2 - sliding snow](#); [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#)

Above 2500m considerable danger in some places: fresh snowdrift, full depth snowslides

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche danger is contingent on altitude and has increased somewhat from the north towards the south. In southern regions above approximately 2500m, considerable danger prevails; below that altitude, the danger level is moderate. In northern regions the danger level above approximately 1800m is moderate, below that it is low. Fresh snowdrift accumulations are still needful of special caution, most easily triggerable in very steep ridgeline terrain above approximately 2200m on W/NW to N to E/NE facing slopes. With ascending altitude the proneness to triggering increases and danger zones spread to other aspects as well. Due to the generally poor visibility it will be difficult to evaluate the hazards today. The old snowpack could release, but probably only in exceptional cases in extremely steep terrain where the snow is shallow by large additional loading, especially above 2400m. In southern regions where snowfall has been heaviest, full depth snowslides are a greater peril than drifted masses. Increased slides have been registered in recent days; they can easily reach medium size, in isolated cases even large size.

SNOW LAYERING

At low and intermediate altitudes, recently drifted masses have stabilised well in general due to higher temperatures and solar radiation. The problem zones are higher up, since solar radiation is less effective, particularly on shady high alpine slopes, where snowdrift deposited on top of loosely packed powder can release. More deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack (faceted crystals between crusts) are usually well bonded, making them less of a threat. In the Tux Alps on shady ridgeline slopes, surface hoar blanketed by snowfall is evident.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: deteriorating weather conditions, fog and moderate snowfall will impair visibility. By Monday in the Northern Alps, about 10 cm of new fallen snow; along the Main Alpine Ridge and in the Southern Alps, 20-30 cm. Temperature at 2000m: -4 degrees; at 3000m: -9 degrees. Moderate southwesterly winds.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowfall and wind will cause new snowdrift accumulations, but the overall situation is not expected to change significantly.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe