



**DANGER PATTERNS (DP):** [dp.2 - sliding snow](#); [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.1 - deep persistent weak layer](#)

## Favourable touring, full depth slides in south, ridgeline snowdrift

### AVALANCHE DANGER

In outlying terrain favourable touring conditions prevail. The avalanche danger in East Tirol where snowfall has been heaviest is moderate; in North Tirol above approximately 2000m, predominantly moderate; below that altitude, low. The major peril stems from full depth snowslides in the regions where snowfall has been heaviest. Particularly threatening are steep, grass-covered slopes at low and intermediate altitudes, mostly on W-NW to S to E-NE facing slopes, usually indicated by glide cracks in the snowpack surface, therefore: heed such cracks and avoid areas beneath them, since snowslides can attain large size due to the snow depths. Other danger zones are drifted masses near ridgelines on very steep, north facing slopes above about 2000m (isolated threats in other aspects as well in high alpine regions). In exceptional cases above about 2300m, the snowpack could fracture at more deeply embedded layers by large additional loading, especially in transition areas from shallow to deep snow.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is well structured in general. Bed surfaces for slab avalanches are still found at the borderline between loosely-packed fresh fallen snow and recently formed snowdrift accumulations in shady, high altitude terrain (in high alpine regions in other aspects as well). Deeper, faceted layers and depth hoar near crusts are evident, usually mixed with forms of melt-freeze, but are generally well bonded and not easy to trigger. Snow quality is deteriorating, but powder can still be found on shady, wind-protected slopes; sometimes firm in extremely steep terrain at intermediate altitude; elsewhere mostly breakable crusts.

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

Mountain weather today: A bit of snowfall possible in the Northern Alps, cloudy this morning, sunny this afternoon. Inneralpine mountain ranges and Main Alpine Ridge will be sunnier. The southern flank of the Alps will be variably cloudy, convective cloud could bring snow showers this afternoon. Temperature at 2000m: -6 to -2 degrees; at 3000m: -14 to -10 degrees. Moderate southerly winds in high alpine regions.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Generally favourable conditions will continue

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe