



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

**Caution: full depth snowslides where snow is deep, ridgeline snowdrift on steep, shady slopes**

#### AVALANCHE DANGER

Predominantly favourable backcountry touring conditions prevail. The danger level is moderate in southern regions where snowfall was heaviest; generally moderate above 2000m in North Tirol, below that altitude it is low. Greatest caution is urged towards full depth snowslides in southern regions; we get reports of observed slides every day without fail, particularly on steep, grass-covered slopes below about 2300m on W-NW to N to E-NE facing slopes. Due to their utter unpredictability, we advise avoiding all areas below glide cracks. Other danger zones are found in the form of recently accumulated snowdrift on very steep, shady ridgeline slopes, where the snowpack can be triggered by minimum additional loading (also because of surface hoar). These avalanche prone locations are easy to recognize, and thus circumvent, with a bit of experience. In extremely steep, wind-protected, shady terrain, loosely-packed avalanches can release. Triggering the snowpack in more deeply embedded layers is currently unlikely, possible only by large additional loading on extremely steep slopes.

#### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack is well structured for the most part, easily disturbed only in shady ridgeline terrain. One potential bed surface for avalanches is the touchpoint between the loosely-packed powder and recently accumulated snowdrift. Surface hoar is also a possible flashpoint, due to forecast snowfall, especially in the Stubai, Tux and Zillertal Alps, as well as in shady ridgeline terrain in East Tirol (Nigg effect). More deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack conceal layers of faceted crystals pressed against hardened crusts, but stability tests show good bonding with surrounding layers.

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

Mountain weather today: light snow showers to begin with in the Northern Alps. The sun will come out during the morning across the northern flank of the Alps but it will become quite windy. During the afternoon, cloud will move in from the west. On the southern flank of the Alps, more cloud, less sun, but it will remain dry. Temperature at 2000m: -3 degrees; at 3000m -9 degrees. Strong to storm-force southerly winds in North Tirol's foehn-exposed regions.

#### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Snowfall and wind require heightened caution in steep, shady terrain.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe