



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - cold, loose, new fallen snow and wind](#); [dp.2 - sliding snow](#); [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#)

Favourable avalanche situation continues, beware gliding avalanches, ridgeline snowdrift

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger is contingent on altitude: below about 2500m, danger level is usually low; above that altitude, moderate. In the Arlberg and Ausserfern regions, the borderline is at about 1800m, since a thin, blanketed layer of ice prevails which on very steep, shady slopes can in isolated cases with large additional loading become a bed surface for slab avalanches. In East Tirol, the danger level is generally moderate due to possible gliding avalanches on steep, grassy slopes. Overall, however, the danger zones are infrequent, usually the peril lies in small snowdrift accumulations which since yesterday have formed on shady, ridgeline slopes at high altitude. With experience, these avalanche prone locations can be easily recognized. Elsewhere, isolated threats in shady, extremely steep terrain in transition areas from shallow to deep snow, especially with large additional loading.

SNOW LAYERING

Despite relatively low temperatures, the solar radiation is having much impact. The snowpack surface on sunny slopes is moistened up to high altitudes, creating widespread melt-freeze crusts. Powder is still evident on wind-protected, shady, steep slopes above the treeline. Weak layers for possible slab avalanches are found in transition areas from loose powder and fresh snowdrift at high altitudes. In isolated cases, particularly where the snow is shallow in shady terrain above 2200 m, the old snowpack beneath the crusts have faceted crystals which could release, but the likelihood is not great.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: quite sunny weather, a bit of cloud, later on convective cloud build-up, but innocuous. Temperatures will rise at all altitudes: the zero-degree level at about 1600 m on the southern flank of the Alps; at 2000m in the Northern Alps. Temperature at 2000m: 0 degrees; at 3000m, -9 degrees. Light southerly winds, brisker in the foehn lanes.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Favourable backcountry touring conditions

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