



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.8 - surface hoar blanketed with snow](#) [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.7 - snow-poor zones in snow-rich surrounding](#)

Beware recently formed snowdrift accumulations

AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger levels have increased somewhat; in the western regions which had the heaviest snowfall above approximately 2000m, as well as in the wind-impacted regions of the south at high altitudes, danger levels have climbed to considerable. Elsewhere, moderate danger prevails; below the treeline the danger is for the most part low. Avalanche prone locations are found (nearly exclusively) in the form of recently drifted snow masses which are prevalent in the western regions, and in general at high altitudes and in the classic foehn lanes above shady wooded zones. Since the (also recently formed) surface hoar has been blanketed over by new fallen snow, the snowdrifts, which are generally small-sized, can easily be triggered, particularly in steep, shady terrain. Wind-protected zones, where the snowpack has lost most of its internal tensions, are more prevalent; in those areas, releases are likely only in exceptional cases, e.g. in transitions from shallow to deep snow, somewhat more threatening at higher altitudes.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been snowfall in Tirol except in the southern regions of East Tirol. Most of it fell in western regions (20 cm) and precisely there were the winds strongest, thus massively transporting the fresh fallen snow. In the Ausserfern and southern Ötztal Alps, new layers of surface hoar have formed, which in turn leads to heightened proneness to triggering of snowdrift accumulations. In addition, the loosely packed powder and the layer of faceted crystals in shady treeline terrain up to 2200m provide potential bed surfaces for avalanches to fracture at.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Mountain weather today: on the northern flank of the Alps, visibility will be poorest, since between Wetterstein, Wilder Kaiser and Kitzbühel Alps dense cloudbanks and residual snow showers persist. The Tux, Zillertal Alps and the Hohe Tauern will better fend off the residual cloud cover. In the western sector of the Main Alpine Ridge, on the other hand, e.g. Ötztal Alps, the sunshine will be more dominant. Temperature at 2000m, -6 degrees; at 3000m, -11 degrees. Light to moderate northwesterly winds, slowly shifting to southwesterly.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Rising dangers due to storm winds

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