



DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#)

**Beware fresh snowdrifts. Mostly great powder, favourable conditions.**

### AVALANCHE DANGER

Avalanche danger today depends on yesterday's snowfall and prevalent wind impact. In the Zillertal Alps and northern East Tirol, snowfall was heaviest, plus there were winds blowing above transport velocity at high altitude. Thus, the danger there above 2200 m is considerable; below that altitude moderate. In the other regions of Tirol, the danger above 2200 m is generally moderate; below that altitude frequently low. The main threat stems from fresh, quite brittle but usually small-sized snowdrift accumulations. With ascending altitude, the danger zones become more numerous, occurring adjacent to ridgelines in particular. Even the weight of one skier is sufficient to release the fresh drifts. Wherever there has been no wind, i.e. in most regions, terrific powder snow can be enjoyed today, with stable accompanying conditions. Only steep, grass-covered slopes still harbor the threat of gliding avalanches. They can grow to large size, especially in western regions (thus, danger level 2 at low altitudes there). Avoid all areas where glide cracks are visible in the snowpack surface.

### SNOW LAYERING

The snowpack surface in wide ranging areas of Tirol consists of cold powder snow. This blankets a generally stable old snowpack. Attention is required towards the rising winds which will transport the powder and form new drifts. On leeward slopes, where this powder will then be deposited, the drifts will be quite prone to triggering. Fortunately, they will also be easily recognizable and can be circumvented.

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

Unstable winter weather, dominated by cloud. Light snow showers will be added to this, heaviest along the Northern Limestone Alps in the Lowlands. Visibility will be poor. In inneralpine regions between Samnaun and the Stubai Alps, some bright intervals are possible. On the southern flank of the Alps, residual cloud will disperse and sunshine will spread incrementally from west to east. At 2000 m: -11 degrees; at 3000 m: -18 degrees. Moderate to brisk NW winds at high altitude.

### SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Fresh snowdrifts are still the main danger.

Patrick Nairz

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe