

US Avalanche Danger Scale

These descriptors offer guidelines to current avalanche probability over a wide area. Check the current bulletin for the area for more details, and use your own judgment in the field.

LOW (Green) - Conditions are generally stable and avalanches are *unlikely*. Use safe travel techniques anyway, just in case.

MODERATE (Yellow) - Natural avalanches are *unlikely* but human triggered ones are *possible*. Use caution in steep terrain.

CONSIDERABLE (Orange) - Natural avalanches are *possible* and human triggered ones are *probable*. Be extra cautious in steep terrain or avoid it.

HIGH (Red) - Natural and human triggered avalanches are *likely* on a variety of aspects and slope angles. Avoid avalanche terrain, including run-out zones.

EXTREME (Black) - Natural and human triggered avalanches are *certain*, the hazard is widespread. Avoid avalanche terrain, stay on low angle slopes, and watch out for small terrain traps.



www.avalanche-center.org

This card is intended only as a reference, it is not instructional. While hazard descriptors typically cover wide areas, slope stability can vary over short distances. To learn more about slope stability evaluation and other important aspects of avalanche safety take a course from a qualified professional. A list of courses is posted on the web at

<http://www.csac.org/Education/>

This quick-reference is provided for your convenience by the:

CyberSpace Avalanche Center -
www.avalanche-center.org

Instructions:

Print this out with the best quality possible. Your local copy shop should have a color printer and can also laminate it for you. If you have an ink-jet printer at home use ink-jet paper for the best quality result.

Cut out the two pieces above and paste them on opposite sides of a 3x5 card. Laminate the card. Carry with you in a convenient pack or clothing pocket.