

Winter Travel Rules

If you are going to travel in avalanche country, you need to follow some simple rules.

1. Always go one at a time
2. Never go above your partner. Get out of the way if you are below.
3. Have a plan:
 - Who's first?
 - Who's last?
 - What slope?
 - Where stopping?
 - Escape route?
4. Stay in voice or visual contact.
5. Alter your skiing or riding according to the danger.

Once you make your plan,
Stick to it.

Other things to remember!

When ever you travel in the back country, be prepared to spend the night out. Make sure you have enough war clothes, a space blanket and a way to light a fire.

If you need to go into the trees for cover, leave a clue on the trail so searchers can find you. Always carry a light source. It will help searchers find you and make you long dark

night a bit more comfortable.

Before you go out , check the avalanche report. If you aren't comfortable with the danger level, don't go!

Remember, all hope of live rescue in an avalanche depends on the people in your group. By the time outside rescuers get to you, survival chances have dropped significantly.

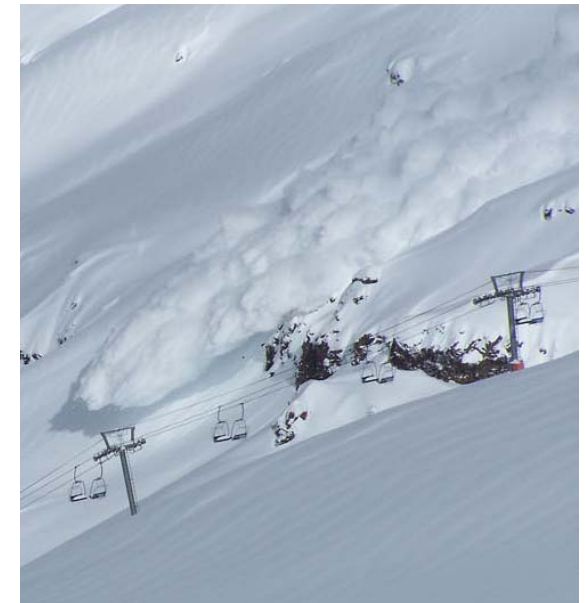
Finally, take an avalanche class and be able to recognize terrain traps and avalanche terrain. Learn how to ski or ride responsibly.



Vail Mountain Rescue
&
The Eagle County Sheriff's Office

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Rescue
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The Eagle County
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Want you to

Be Aware of
Avalanche
Danger!



You Can't Beat the Power of Mother Nature

And its not a good idea to try!

In the back country in winter, as in summer, Mother Nature has the last word on your survival. Whether you ski, ride or snow machine, in winter, the danger of avalanche is the biggest killer.



Between 2000 and 2006, 9 people were killed in avalanches in Eagle County alone. Most of these deaths could have been prevented with a bit of education and by following a few simple rules.

To Have an Avalanche...

For an avalanche to take place, only four factors need to be present in the right combination. If they are there, you could be in trouble.



These factors are:

- A 30-45 degree slope
- A weak layer
- A slab of snow to break loose
- Some triggering event

Thousands of avalanches are released every year by natural occurrences with no injury or loss of life - simply because there were no people involved. But all too often, the trigger can be you or someone like you who thinks it will never happen to them. **It Can!**