



The Avalanche Handbook

By David McClung, Peter Schaerer



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The unrivaled resource for information on avalanches and snow safety— now completely updated!

- New information on the unique characteristics of alpine snow, snow slab instability, terrain variables, skier triggering of avalanches, and the nature of avalanche motion
- Brand-new chapters on the elements of backcountry avalanche forecasting and the decision-making process
- This is the text used by search and rescue professionals, ski patrol groups, and outdoor education programs

Technical yet accessible, The Avalanche Handbook, 3rd Edition, covers the formation, character, effects, and control of avalanches; rescue techniques; and research on understanding and surviving avalanches. Illustrated with nearly 200 updated illustrations, photos and examples, the revised edition offers exhaustive information on contributing weather and climate factors, snowpack analysis, the newest transceiver search techniques, and preventative and protective measures, including avalanche zoning and control.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Don't think it couldn't happen to you. Skiers, snowboarders, climbers, and anyone else who travels in the mountains should be aware of the awesome destructive power of avalanches and the conditions that cause them. The *Handbook* is a comprehensive guide to avoiding such a calamity of snow and ice--and how to improve your chances of survival if you're caught in one. With a combination of science and practical advice, the authors explain how avalanches happen, how to test a slope for slide potential, and how to navigate in avalanche-prone areas. This is essential material for winter recreation fans and outdoors enthusiasts.

Review

"For people who spend hours downhill or cross-country skiing, snowshoeing..the book is an excellent reference." -- *Klamath Falls Herald and News*

"Perhaps the definitive book on snow science and avalanche mechanics...The authors' credentials are impeccable." --*Off Piste*

About the Author

David McClung is a professor in the Department of Geography and leader of the avalanche research group at the University of British Columbia. He has 35 winters of field experience and has published more than 150 technical articles on alpine snow and avalanches. With more than 40 years experience studying avalanches, Peter Schaerer spent most of his career as a senior research officer and head of the Avalanche Research Center of the National Research Council of Canada. He was instrumental in forming the Canadian Avalanche Association and in setting up professional avalanche training programs in western Canada.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donn Chavez:

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Marie Nitta:

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Lewis Wade:

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