

Slope Angle and Snow Stability - Two key factors in safe backcountry riding



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When venturing into the backcountry, answering these two questions is essential when assessing a slope to ride:

Is the terrain capable of producing an avalanche?

-and-

Can the snow slide?

Avalanches happen when four ingredients are present: a slab, a weak layer, a trigger and a **slope steep enough to slide**. A key problem when assessing slope angle is that most slopes have varying degrees of steepness. It is critical for riders to assess slope angle frequently.

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