

NEW SERIES: mini-guides

SNOW

INFORMATION

This practical guide is aimed at walkers, climbers and snowsport enthusiasts who want to acquire or improve their knowledge of snow and avalanche release, and also at snow professionals, guides, mountaineering and snowsport instructors, and ski patrollers.

It describes the process of formation and evolution of snow and shows practical methods of examining and analysing the snow cover. It throws light on how best to understand the many forms which snow may take, and on how to assess avalanche risk more precisely and reliably... It includes a system of snow observation and a snow crystal card, to help analyse snow conditions.

The instability of the snowpack depends very much on its physical make-up, which unfortunately is quite difficult to understand, the more so as in the mountains it varies perceptibly with both place and time.

What is snow? How is it formed? How does it change? Where and when is it dangerous?

This book will attempt to provide a few answers to these questions by examining...

- forms of snow crystals
- snow crystal changes on the ground
- how these changes affect snow cohesion
- how to estimate weakness of the snowpack from continuous meteorological observation, snow profiles, stability tests
- how the stratigraphy of the snowpack affects its stability.

THE AUTHOR

Robert Bolognesi, PhD, Polytechnic of Lausanne, graduate of the Institute of Alpine Geography, Grenoble, is a former researcher at the Federal Snow and Avalanche Research Centre, Davos, avalanche control practitioner, and founder of METEORISK, specialising in the amelioration of weather-related risks.

Translation by Blyth Wright, head of the Scottish Avalanche Information Service.

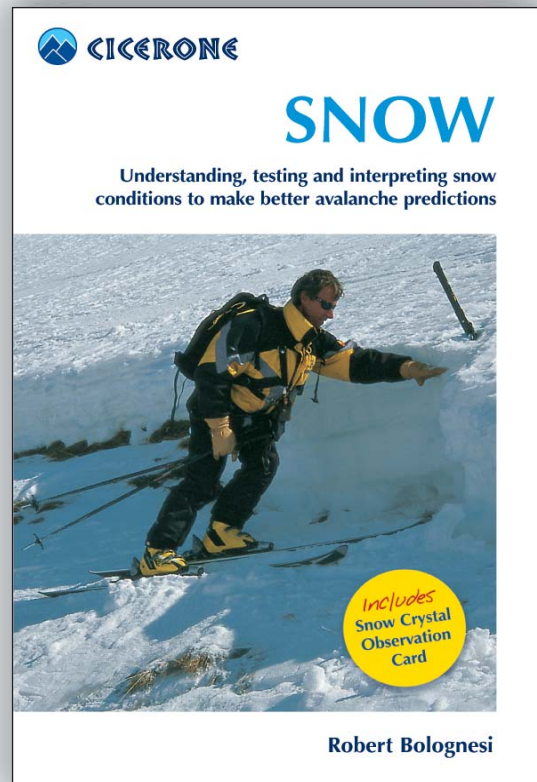
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SNOW

Understanding, testing and interpreting snow conditions to make better avalanche predictions

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KEY MARKETING POINTS

- A detailed study of the technical aspects of snow and avalanche risk
- Suitable for participants in all winter sports

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