

D-R-A-F-T**Snowpack Strength/Stability Test Scoring****Shovel Shear Test**

Term	Description	Equivalent Shear Strength (Pa)	Data Code
Collapse	Block settles when cut		STC
Very Easy	Fails during cutting or insertion of shovel		STV
Easy	Fails with minimum pressure	< 100	STE
Moderate	Fails with moderate pressure	100-1000	STM
Hard	Fails with firm sustained pressure	1000-2500	STH
No Shear	No shear failure observed	2500-4000	STN

Rutschblock Test

Score	Loading step that produces a clean shear fracture ($\leq Q_2$)	Data Code
1	Block slides during digging or cutting	RB1
2	The skier approaches the block from above and gently steps down onto the upper part of the block (within 35 cm of the upper wall).	RB2
3	Without lifting the heels, the skier drops once from straight leg to bend knee position (feet together) pushing downwards and compacting surface layers.	RB3
4	The skier jumps up and lands in the same compacted spot.	RB4
5	The skier jumps again onto the same compacted spot.	RB5
6	For hard deep slabs remove skis and jump on the same spot; for soft slabs or thin slabs where jumping without skis might penetrate the slab, keep skis on. Step down another 35 cm (almost to mid-block and push once then jump three times.	RB6
7	None of the loading steps produced a smooth slope-parallel failure	RB7

Compression Test

Term	Description	Data Code
Very Easy	Fractures during cutting	CTV
Easy	Fractures within 10 light taps using finger tips only	CT1 to CT10
Moderate	Fractures within 10 moderate taps from the elbow using fingertips	CT11 to CT20
Hard	Fractures within 10 firm taps from whole arm using palm or fist	CT20 to CT30
No Fracture	Does not fracture	CTN

D-R-A-F-T**Stuffblock Test**

Term	Description	Data Code
Very Easy	Fractures during column isolation	SBV
Easy	Fractures during static load	SB0
Easy (drop height of 10 or 20 cm)	Fractures during dynamic load	SB + drop height number (SB10, SB 20, etc.)
Moderate (drop height of 30 or 40 cm)		
Hard (drop height of 50-70 cm)		
No fracture	Does not fracture	SBN

Extended Column Test (12/2007)

Description	Score
Fracture propagates across the entire column during isolation	ECTPV
Fracture initiates and propagates across the entire column in ## or ## + 1 taps	ECTP##
Fracture does not propagate across the entire column or there are two or more taps between the initiation and propagation of the fracture	ECTN
No fracture occurs during the test.	ECTNR

Slope Cut Test

Term	Description	Data Code
No release	No result	SCN
Whumpfing	Cut produces collapse in the snowpack	SCW
Cracking	Cut produces shooting cracks	SCC
Avalanche, Slab	Slope produces a slab avalanche.	SCS
Avalanche, Loose	Slope produces a loose snow or sluff avalanche	SCL