



# Avalanche Course Gear List

## Gear Rental

- **Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking.** AT skis, skins and boots.
- **Blue and Gold.** Splitboards.
- **Hoarding Marmot.** AT skis, boots, skins, and avalanche gear.
- **REI Anchorage.** AT skis, boots, skins, and avalanche gear.

## Avalanche Gear Stores

- **Hoarding Marmot.** Bring your course confirmation for 10% off avalanche gear.
- **Powder Hound.** Bring your course confirmation for 10% off select gear.
- **Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking.**

**American Alpine Club** membership includes 15-60% discount on over 500 brands.

**Recommended Items** are listed at the end. All other items are required.

## Travel Gear

\_\_\_\_\_ **Skis.** 90mm minimum waist width. AGC choice: Voile SuperCharger, Black Diamond Helio 105, Atomic Backland 107.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Boots.** The best boot fits your foot. Use the services of a professional bootfitter. Different feet fit different boots. An example of an AT boot for some feet: Scarpa Maestrale. An example of a splitboard mountaineering for some feet: Phantom Slipper.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Bindings.** Tech bindings (Dynafit-style) recommended with brakes. AGC choice: Dynafit Rotation, ATK Raider, Atomic Backland Tour.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Splitboard and Bindings.** AGC choice: Spark bindings for backcountry or Phantom binding for splitboard mountaineering with hardboots.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Skins.** Cut to fit your ski. Tail clip required. AGC choice: Black Diamond Ascension STS Climbing Skins, G3 Alpinist skins, Pomoca, or Voile skins with tail clips.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Ski Poles.** AGC choice: Black Crow Duos, Voile CamLock 2 (or 3 piece for splitboards), Les Batons d'Alain, Black Diamond Compactor for splitboards.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Ski Strap.** To hold your skis and poles together for travel and booting. Also useful for emergency repair. Multiple are useful. AGC choice: Voile or Black Diamond Ski Strap.



## Avalanche Gear

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Beacon.** Must be a modern three-antenna with current software update and less than 10 years old. Do not bring Tracker 1, Ortovox F1, M1 or M2. AGC choice: Mammut Barryvox or Tracker 4.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Batteries.** Extra alkaline batteries for your beacon and headlamp. No lithium or rechargeable. Don't use cheap brands. AGC choice: name brand with LR03 stamp such as Duracell, Energizer or Kirkland Signature.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Probe.** Must be at least 280cm. Ski pole probes and shovel handle probes are not acceptable. AGC choice: Black Diamond QuickDraw Tour Probe 280 or 320.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Shovel.** Must be a metal backcountry avalanche shovel. No plastic shovels. No cheap shovels such as brands sold at Costco and Fred Meyer. AGC choice: Black Diamond Transfer LT, Mammut Alugator pro light, Voile Hoback
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Inclinometer.** The best types are avalanche-specific inclinometers or a compass with an inclinometer and mirror. Phone apps like Steve's Badass Avalanche Inclinometer can work, but can be faulty. A compass allows all angles to be measured along with aspect. AGC choice: BCA Slope Meter, Silva Ranger, or Suunto MC-2.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Snow Saw.** 35cm. Required for Rec 1 and 2 courses. AGC choice: G3 Bone Saw, BCA Snow Saw, MSR Beta Snow Science Saw.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **ECT Cord.** Required for Rec 1 and 2 courses. To cut the back of your extended column test. 3 m of 3 mm cord with overhand knots every 15 cm. AGC choice: 550 paracord.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Navigation App.** Required for Rec 1 and 2 courses. Have maps of the area, either paper or on your phone. AGC choice: Gaia GPS app at the Premium Membership level with layers downloaded for slope angle and USGS topo for Turnagain Pass.



## Everyday Gear

- \_\_\_ **Backpack.** Simple and light. 35 to 45 liters. All of your gear must fit inside the pack with nothing strapped to the outside, except your helmet. Airbag backpacks optional, but recommended. AGC choice: Black Diamond Cirque 35 or 45.
- \_\_\_ **Helmet.** Ski or snowboard helmet. AGC Choice: Dynafit TLT or Salomon MTN Lab.
- \_\_\_ **Trail Food.** In the mountains, lunch starts right after breakfast. Eating happens at convenient break times and on the go. Choose foods that are easy to access and easy to eat. AGC choice: sandwich, meat, gorp, bars, cheese, leftovers, smoked salmon.
- \_\_\_ **Water Bottle.** 1-2 liters depending on your need. Please, no hydration hose bladders or frozen water bottles. AGC choice: GSI vacuum thermos, Zojirushi Vacuum Mug, Nalgene 32-oz wide mouth.
- \_\_\_ **Water Bottle Insulator.** AGC Choice: Forty Below Bottle Boot.
- \_\_\_ **Headlamp.** Small and light, with batteries that match your beacon. Or carry two rechargeable headlamps. A headlamp should live in your backpack for late exits and emergencies. AGC choice: Petzl Tikka or Black Diamond Storm.
- \_\_\_ **Sunglasses.** AGC choice: Julbo Shield.
- \_\_\_ **Goggles.** Opt for bright, yellow or rose lenses to increase depth perception in flat light. AGC choice: Julbo Goggles with photochromic lenses or clear lenses for mid winter.

## Clothing

- \_\_\_ **Hard Shell Jacket.** To stop wind, snow and rain. No electric jackets. AGC choice: Gore-Tex. Patagonia Super Cell Jacket, Black Diamond Liquid Point Jacket.
- \_\_\_ **Hard Shell Pants.** Hard shell leg wear is more versatile than softshell. Pants must fit over boots. AGC choice: Patagonia Powder Bowl Pant.
- \_\_\_ **Long Underwear Top and Bottom.** AGC choice: Patagonia Capilene Midweight. Voormi base layers.
- \_\_\_ **Mid-Weight Top and Bottom.** For extra cold conditions. AGC choice: Patagonia Capilene Thermal Weight, Voormi base layers.



- \_\_\_ **Insulated Parka.** With a hood to fit over all other layers. AGC choice: Patagonia Macro Puff Hoody, Black Diamond Belay Parka.
- \_\_\_ **Ski socks.** Thin is best for a good fit in your boot. Consider Sidas heated foot beds or Lenz heated socks if you have poor circulation or conditions are cold.
- \_\_\_ **Warm Hat.** Must cover ears.
- \_\_\_ **Buff.** Or face covering for cold and wind.
- \_\_\_ **Light Gloves.** Your everyday glove. Important for warmth when taking notes, packing, etc. AGC choice: Black Diamond Glissade Gloves, Black Diamond Dirt Bag gloves. Showa Temres 282-02 for wet weather.
- \_\_\_ **Warm Gloves/Mittens.** AGC choice: Black Diamond Crew or Guide glove. Black Diamond Mitts. No electric gloves please as they interfere with beacon transmission and searching.

## Recommended Items

- \_\_\_ **Après Ski Bag.** To leave in the car. Include hot drinks, snacks, dry clothing and warm snow boots.
- \_\_\_ **Waxed Skis.** Fresh, all-temperature wax on your skis will help you slide out to the road.
- \_\_\_ **First Aid Kit.** A small and simple kit including: Medical tape, large bandages, Ibuprofen, Tylenol, personal prescriptions, etc. The instructors will have a larger kit, but will not carry prescription drugs.
- \_\_\_ **Emergency Shelter.** A few ounces could save your life. AGC choice: Sol Emergency Bivy (\$), 8x10' Sil-nylon tarp (\$\$), Rab Superlite Shelter 4 (\$\$\$).
- \_\_\_ **Fire Starter.** Another life-saving item that should live in your pack. Some water-proof matches and firestarter in a small zip-loc bag.
- \_\_\_ **Heat Packs.** For toes when the temperatures are below 20F. Should be toe warmers, not hand warmers. If your boot toe room is limited, place the heat pack on your lower leg just above the boot. AGC choice: Costco toe warmers.
- \_\_\_ **Insulated Pants.** Recommended when temps in the teens or colder. This is nice for standing around in cold temps or emergencies. Or a puff skirt. AGC choice: Black Diamond Belay Pant, Mountain Hardwear Compressor, Scoop full length skirt.