

Snow Study: Field data sheet

Team: _____
 Location _____ Latitude _____ Longitude _____
 Date _____ Time _____ Wind Dir _____ Wind Vel _____
 Cloud type _____ % Cloud Cover _____ Air temp _____ °C

METHOD

1. After preparing the snow pit, record and graph temperatures on the data sheet
2. Mark out each snow layer and draw lines across the table at each layer
3. For each layer, record the crystal size and type, hardness and weight/100 ml.

SIZE OF CRYSTAL

Very Fine 0.1 - 0.5mm
 Fine 0.5 - 1mm
 Medium 1 - 2mm
 Coarse 2 - 4mm
 Very Coarse 4 mm or >

CRYSTAL TYPES

New snow +
 New snow, rimed +r
 Graupel ‡
 Partially settled ^
 Rounded grains ●
 Faceted crystals □
 Depth hoar △
 Melt-freeze particles ○
 Surface hoar ▽

HARDNESS

very soft FIST
 soft 4F
 Medium 1 F
 Hard P
 Very hard K
 Ice ICE

NET SNOW CORE

A core sample of snow taken across the entire pack will provide a measure of water equivalance for the accumulated snow. Using the pipe, collect and weigh the core sample in a plastic bag. Calculate the volume of snow sampled. The ratio of weight to volume gives the water equivalency.

