

WildSnow Pre-season Gear Checklist 2.0

Bindings

__ Check all binding mounting screws. If screws are loose, back them all the way out and add wood glue or epoxy to the hole and tighten back down.

__ Make sure binding is completely flat to ski, not “screw jacked.”

__ Check for cracks, especially in the heel piece of binding, but examine the metallic toe plate as well (use a magnifying glass or 2x reading glasses).

__ Check all machine screws for tightness. If a screw has backed out add Loctite and tighten down. If you’ve never done this and feel uncomfortable with it, seek the services of a professional binding technician. __ Click both boots into bindings and check heel spacing.

Skis

__ Examine top sheet and sidewalls for delaminations. If cracks are found add epoxy and clamp with medium tightness, before water has a chance to permeate the core.

__ Examine bases for dimples or core shots. Fill core shots with P-tex. If core shots are large (over a cm wide) you may want to visit a shop for a more serious repair.

__ Check bases for wax. If the base looks white or dry it is time for wax.

Skins

__ Check skin glue for balling and general stickiness. Adding a little glue if needed.

__ Check tip and tail attachment on skins. Watch for little tears around attachments that could start growing. __ Organize skins. If you use multiple setups, have a dedicated bag for each.

Poles

__ Check pole baskets to make sure they are firmly secure

__ Inspect shaft for cracks.

__ If you’ve got pole straps that are hard to adjust or broken, swap them out.

Boots

__ Check machine screws and add Loctite. A loose buckle can become a missing buckle if these are not routinely checked.

__ Add a small coat of white lithium grease to the ski/walk mechanism.

__ Check for an overly worn cuff pivot rivet by manipulating cuff to see if there is excess play.

__ Check tech heel fitting to make sure it's firmly fixed to boot. Tighten screws, remove and bed in J-B Weld if needed.

__ Check boot function in several different new tech bindings, especially by doing a hand check of lateral release. If boot behaves poorly in a variety of new bindings, it's possible the tech fittings are worn.

__ Check the BOA dial and laces for any wear.

Avalanche Specific Gear

__ Place fresh batteries in your transceiver and check if the manufacturer has a [software update](#) available.

__ Check to make sure your transceiver functions properly. (Has it been recalled in the past?)

__ Check for any flaws in your probe (bent aluminum or cracked carbon fiber) and that it deploys as designed.

Miscellany

__ Do your hard shells need a DWR refresher?

__ Check your leather gloves for cracking and dryness. Reapply mink oil or other leather proofing as needed. __ Check goggle lenses and foam.

__ Check your helmet for cracks and dimples. If it is more than five years old, consider retiring it.