

# QUICK REFERENCE: AVALANCHE RESCUE

-CALL FOR HELP; DO NOT LEAVE SITE-

## ☑ STOP. ASSESS SAFETY! ENSURE NO FURTHER HAZARD

- Risk of a second avalanche?
- Move to defined safe location

## ☑ CHOOSE A LEADER

- Delegate tasks

## ☑ HEAD COUNT

- How many missing?

## ☑ CALL FOR HELP (911)

- Location, Nature of Emergency, Name, # in group, # missing

## ☑ SWITCH ALL TRANSCEIVERS TO SEARCH MODE

- Check that no transceivers are transmitting

## ☑ DETERMINE WHERE TO SEARCH

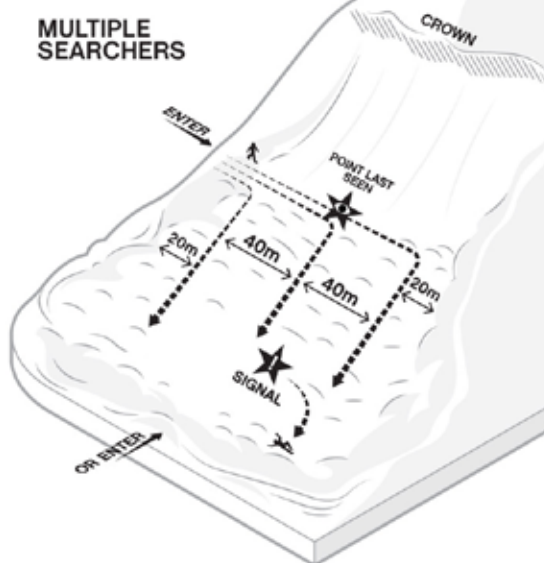
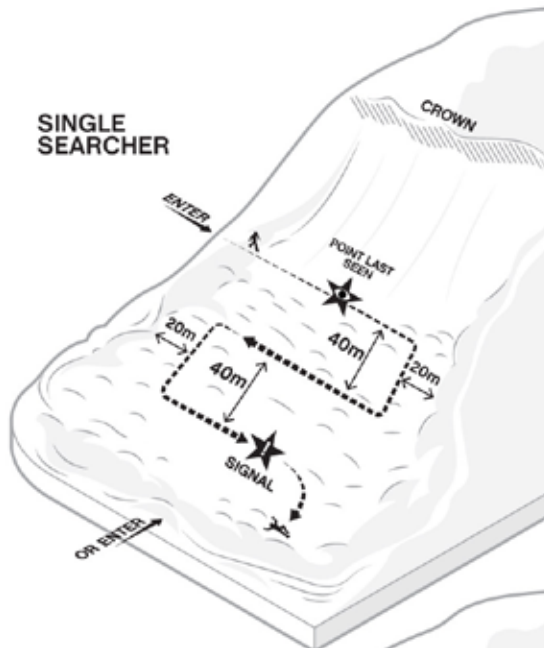
- Below POINT LAST SEEN
- In line with clues
- Areas of debris, especially terrain traps

## ☑ SEARCH FOR SIGNAL & VISUAL CLUES

- Enter debris from side or toe of path
- Search strips 40m apart
- (~40 strides)

## ☑ YELL TO OTHERS WHEN YOU FIND A CLUE OR RECEIVE A SIGNAL

- Pull clue out of snow and leave on snow surface
- Put a marker in the snow where you begin to follow signal
- Call for a second searcher to assemble probe and shovel

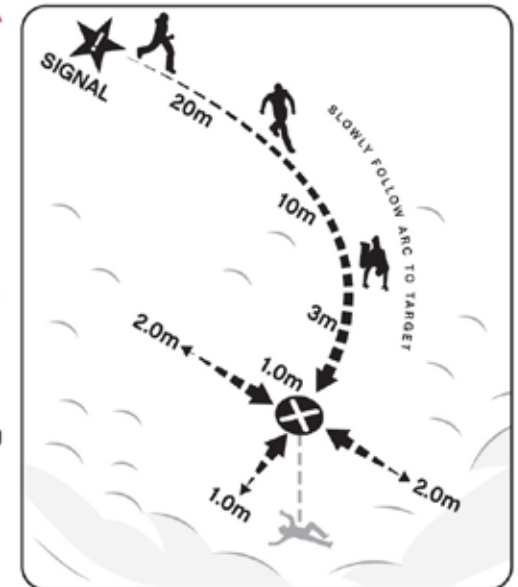


## ☑ FOLLOW SIGNAL TO BURIAL AREA

- SLOW AND PRECISE as you approach 10m
- Keep transceiver near the snow surface during final approach
- Around 5m, place a marker on the snow that points along the approach trajectory

## ☑ LOCATE BURIAL WITH TRANSCEIVER & PROBE

- If possible, 2nd searcher PROBES LIKELY BURIAL AREA in front of transceiver searcher's trajectory until closest signal located
- Locate the closest transceiver signal by bracketing ahead/behind and to the sides, maintaining consistent transceiver orientation
- Pinpoint using the probe, from the center of the closest signal, outwards in a circular pattern
- Probe strike = victim location  
LEAVE PROBE IN PLACE!

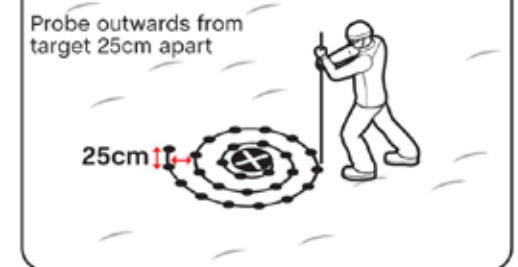


## ☑ SHOVEL FAST & EFFECTIVELY

- Start with a large step downhill and away from the probe, 2 or more steps if deep burial
- Dig towards the probe; throw snow far away!
- CHANGE SHOVELERS OFTEN (if rescuers available)
- Careful shoveling as you reach your buried companion
- Expose face immediately



Probe perpendicular to debris surface



Probe outwards from target 25cm apart

## ☑ PATIENT CARE

- Clear airway
- Provide First Aid or CPR as required
- Move to safe terrain
- Plan evacuation and follow up on call for help

## ☑ IF HELICOPTER COMES TO YOUR AID

- Secure loose items so they do not blow away
- When heli lands, wait for rescuer to come to you

