

This list borrowed from <http://mogulmick.vbmco.com/slang.html>

**Abattoir -**

Mogul Mick's signature freestyle move, where he catches big air off a roll and lands upon a six-pack of stupid snowboarders, sitting on their padded posteriors right in the middle of the run.

**Abstem -**

Wedging out the tail of the downhill ski.

**ACL -**

Acronym for **A**nterior **C**ruciate **L**igament, the tearing of which produces skiers' worst knee injury.

**Acro -**

Acrobatic skiing, linking jumps, flips and spins.

**Air (as in Catching Air) -**

Jumping off the snow.

**Airplane Turn -**

Turning the skis in mid-air, to engage a new set of edges upon landing a jump.

**Alpine Skiing -**

The resort-based, sit and ride up, stand and slide down paradigm.

**Apres Ski -**

The night-life of a ski area, preferred by some to slope-side activities.

**ASS -**

Acronym for **A**bominable **S**now **S**lider; anyone on the slopes who is wearing a really stupid-looking hat in order to get attention.

**AT -**

Acronym for **A**lpine **T**ouring, using free-heel safety bindings that lock down after climbing, along with downhill-style skis; backcountry skiing combining Nordic and Alpine functions.

**ATS -**

Acronym for the **A**merican **T**eaching **S**ystem; also known as "Always Teach Steering."

**Avie -**

Avalanche.

**BAFL -**

Acronym for **B**ig **A**ir, **F**lat **L**anding, which may result in compression fractures of the vertebrae.

**Balance -**

The fundamental skill of skiing, also known as a sequence of linked recoveries.

**Biff -**

To bump the snow with your body, as in a brief uphill fall and quick recovery.

**Big Air -**

Leaving the ground for at least a couple of seconds of hang-time.

**Boilerplate (Bulletproof) -**

Hard, dense, unedgeable ice, often created by a mid-winter thaw or rain.

**Bomb Hole -**

Impression in the snow produced by landing big air.

**Bombing (Booming, Schuss-booming) -**

Recklessly going straight down hill at high speed. The record for speed skiing is 150 mph.

**Bonk -**

To bounce off an object. (Caution: this word is also Brit-speak for "shag")

**Bono -**

Skiing full-speed into a tree.

**Bowl -**

Steep, wide run, usually higher on both sides.

**Bros -**

Our fellow rippers and shredders who are just out for fun, rather than doing big hucks for big bucks like some of the Pros.

**Bumps (Moguls) -**

Series of small hills and troughs made by skiers repeatedly turning in the same place.

**Bunny (Snow Bunny) -**

Novice female skier, usually more interested in posing than in skiing.

**Bunny Hill -**

The beginner's slope.

**Butt-Dragger -**

Beginning snowboarder.

**Butt-Plant -**

Falling upon one's posterior, which is (almost) always good for a laugh.

**Camber -**

The natural longitudinal curve of an unweighted ski's base, which gives it rebound out of turns.

**Cap Ski -**

Monocoque ski construction, without a separate sidewall.

**Carvaholic -**

Skier or snowboarder addicted to the sensation of carving.

**Carving -**

Turning with the dug-in edge of a ski or snowboard, producing a crisp, clean arc without significant skidding or side-slipping.

**Champagne Powder -**

Very dry snow, which is so light that it can't be made into a snowball.

**Chatter -**

Vibrations produced by a ski not holding its edge on ice or hardpack.

**Checking -**

Briefly setting an edge to reduce speed.

**Chinese Downhill (Geschmozzle) -**

Race where everyone starts together.

**Chocolate Chips -**

A cluster of rocks poking out of the snow.

**Chowder -**

Chopped-up powder.

**Christie -**

A skidded turn made on corresponding ski edges.

**Chute -**

Steep, narrow run, usually higher on both sides.

**Clamps -**

Bindings.

**Cliff -**

Any drop of more than three feet.

**CM -**

Acronym for **C**enter of **M**ass, awareness of which is necessary for balance.

**Coach -**

Psycho-babble for Snowsports Instructor.

**Corduroy -**

Shallow, closely-spaced parallel grooves in the snow made by grooming machines.

**Core Shot -**

An impact causing severe damage to a ski's base, exposing its core.

**Corn -**

A type of spring snow that forms into small, light pellets.

**Cornice -**

Overhanging ridge of windblown snow or ice.

**Coulie (Couloir) -**

A narrow chute with rock walls on both sides.

**Crud -**

Wet, heavy, clumpy, cut-up, mashed-potato-like snow, in which turning is difficult.

**Cruising -**

Making big turns at high speed.

**Crust -**

Frozen surface covering loose snow.

**Daffy -**

Aerial with one ski forward, the other aft.

**Damp -**

Ability of a ski to dampen or absorb vibrations.

**Death Cookies -**

Firm or frozen clumps of snow, usually the result of incompetent snow-making.

**Deeps -**

Deep powder conditions, requiring a powder cord or leash on your skis.

**Disco Sticks -**

Short slalom and twin-tip skis, capable of very short radius turns.

**Eagle (Spread Eagle) -**

Aerial with arms and legs spread apart.

**Ego Snow -**

Machine-groomed packed powder, which holds an edge without much skill or effort.

**Expert -**

Someone with the ability to ski under control in any terrain or snow condition.

**Extreme -**

Ski conditions or tactics that put your life in danger.

**Face-Plant -**

Falling on your face, which is rarely a funny situation.

**Face Shot -**

Skiing fast in deep powder, causing it to fly up into your face.

**Fakie (Going Fakie) -**

Skiing, snowboarding or skiboarding backwards.

**Fall-Line -**

Path taken by a large ball rolling down a slope.

**Fatty (Fat Ski) -**

A very wide ski designed for powder conditions.

**Fib -**

Glib attempt to excuse a fall, by saying, "I caught an edge," or "I lost an edge."

**Figure 11 (Schuss) -**

Running straight down hill, with skis parallel.

**FIS -**

Acronym for **F**ederation **I**nternationale de **S**ki, which regulates World Cup ski competition.

**Freecarving (Funcarving, Supercarving) -**

Laying down slow-speed trenches on hypercarvers without using poles.

**Freerider -**

One who prefers to ski off-piste steeps, jab through the trees and huck powder bumps.

**Freeride Skis (Riders) -**

Mid-fat, all-terrain skis that excel in the steep and deep.

**Free Skiing -**

Non-competitive, non-task-oriented skiing, done for adventure, enjoyment, exploration and/or self-expression.

**Freestyle -**

Aerials off a ramp or tricks on a timed mogul run, these are the only events at which the U.S. Olympic Ski Team excels.

**Freshies -**

Fresh, untracked snow.

**Frozen Chicken Heads -**

What you get when spring slush freezes.

**Gapers -**

Spectators, whose location on the slope impedes one's downhill progress.

**Gap Jump -**

Big spring launched to carry you over a gap.

**Garlands -**

Series of turns linked by sideslips, progressing in one direction.

**Glades -**

Skiable terrain among the trees.

**Gliding -**

Forward motion of an edged ski (or snow toy), as opposed to sliding any which way.

**GLM -**

Acronym for **G**raduated-**L**ength **M**ethod, a teaching technique using progressively longer skis.

**Gnar (Gnarly) -**

Very challenging conditions.

**Goods (The Goods) -**

Untracked powder, usually in the trees.

**Gorilla Turn -**

Using the whole body to force the turn around.

**Granular -**

Snow consisting of big, coarse crystals that look like rock salt.

**Hardpack -**

Firm, almost icy snow.

**Herringbone -**

"V"-shaped climbing step; duck-walking uphill.

**Hinge -**

Falling downhill with great force.

**Hip Check -**

Smearing one's butt on the snow while turning in steep powder, in order to scrub off speed.

**Hit -**

Take-off point of a terrain feature, from which one can catch air.

**Hoho -**

Handstand on the apex of a halfpipe.

**Hooking -**

Tendency for a ski to turn uncontrollably.

**Huck -**

To ski off a cliff or roll, catching big air.

**Hurl Carcass -**

To huck in a really major way. The current record is 226 vertical feet.

**Hypercarver -**

Short ski with a radical sidecut and a turn radius less than 14 meters, often skied without poles.

**Invert -**

Aerial maneuver during which one is upside down.

**Jetting -**

Accelerating while exiting a turn by projecting the feet forward.

**Jibbing -**

Sliding down anything that isn't snow, such as a railing or sitting snowboarder.

**Kicker -**

A big hit.

**Kick Turn -**

Turning skis 180 degrees, one ski at a time, while stationary.

**Knuckle-Dragger -**

Carving snowboarder.

**Kodak Courage -**

Skiing foolishness, inspired by nearby ski magazine photographers.

**Liftie (Lift Op) -**

Ski lift operator.

**Lift-Lickers -**

Children who can't resist freezing their tongues to the chairlift.

**Lunch Tray (aka "Launch" Tray) -**

Snowboard.

**Manky -**

The nasty odor of polyester underwear after a strenuous day on the slopes.

**Mid-Fat (Low-Fat) -**

A wider shaped ski, designed for both on- and off-piste skiing.

**NASTAR -**

Acronym for **NA**tional **ST**andards **R**ace, a group of small-scale standardized race courses at resorts across the country.

**Noodle -**

A ski that lacks torsional rigidity, making it unstable at speed.

**Nordic Skiing -**

Usually meant as cross-country ski touring on skinny skis with free-heel bindings; the Nordic skiing events in the Winter Olympics are something quite different.

**Nosebone -**

Snowboard jump with front leg straight and rear leg flexed.

**Off-Piste -**

Ungroomed portion of the ski area.

**Ollie -**

Snowboard pre-jump move, where one foot is lifted before the other.

**Out-of-Bounds -**

Unpatrolled regions outside the designated ski area.

**Pack -**

To slam hard.

**Parabolic -**

Hourglass-shaped ski, with a much wider tip and tail to increase ease of turning and carving.

**Park -**

The snowboard terrain area, with hits and half-pipes.

**Pin-Head -**

Dedicated telemark skier.

**Pipe -**

Half-pipe in a terrain park; also, drug paraphernalia used by snowboarders on long chairlift rides.

**Piste -**

Packed snow.

**Planker (Two-Planker) -**

A skier.

**Poaching -**

Skiing out of bounds.

**Poodle Turns -**

Show-dog demo turns made by PSIA Instructors, even when they're not teaching.

**Poma -**

Mr. Pomagalski's brand name, now a generic term for platter-pull lifts.

**Pooping -**

Sitting back on the skis, while bent at the waist.

**Pop -**

Ski rebound, which catapults you from one turn into the next.

**Posing -**

Trying to get noticed.

**Posse -**

The group of people you usually ski or ride with.

**Pow (Pow-Pow, Powder) -**

Light, dry, fluffy snow.

**Powder Elevens -**

Schussing in powder.

**Powder Hound -**

Skier preoccupied with sniffing out powder stashes.

**Powder Pig -**

Skier prone to wallowing in the deep, white stuff.

**Pre-jump -**

To lift skis or board into the air before reaching the crest of a jump.

**PSIA -**

Acronym for **P**rofessional **S**ki **I**nstructors of **A**merica.

**P-tex -**

Polyethylene ski base material.

**Quiver -**

One's collection of skis, each pair specialized for a different purpose.

**Rag Doll -**

Someone who tumbles downhill while limp and presumably unconscious.

**Railing -**

When an edged ski runs uncontrollably straight instead of turning.

**Rebound -**

Kinetic energy released by a decambered ski; pop.

**Retraction -**

Pulling the skis up towards the body with the legs, to change edges or absorb bumps.

**Ripper -**

An accomplished, carving skier.

**Rolls -**

Sudden drop-offs, where the slope rolls over an edge.

**Royal -**

Carved turn made only on the inside ski.

**Ruade -**

Turn made by lifting both ski tails and pivoting on their tips.

**Run -**

Designated ski slope or trail.

**Run Rubbish -**

Packs of snowboarders blocking runs.

**Scissoring -**

Crossing one's ski tips, with edge-to-edge contact.

**Scrapers -**

Snowboarders who sit on their butts and scrape their way down steep slopes.

**Screaming Starfish -**

Someone cartwheeling downhill while yelling for help.

**Shaped Ski -**

Modern ski with a pronounced sidecut.

**Shovel -**

Upturned portion of a ski's tip.

**Shredder -**

An accomplished, carving snowboarder.

**Sick -**

Extreme, hairy, dangerous.

**Sideslip -**

Sliding sideways down the hill by releasing the edges.

**Sierra Cement -**

Central California's heavy, moist powder.

**Sitzmark (Bathtub) -**

Impression left in the snow by a fall.

**Skiboards -**

Very short shaped skis with non-releasing bindings, designed for tricks and skating on snow.

**Ski Bum -**

Someone who has discovered the best alternative to working.

**Ski Patroller Turns -**

Linked short-swing parallel turns down the fall line, using heel-thrust edge-checks.

**Slam -**

To crash or fall hard.

**Slash-'n-Burn Turn -**

A carved, banked turn off a wall.

**Slow-Dog Noodle Turn -**

Going over a bump while sitting way back on your skis.

**Smack (Talking Smack) -**

Bragging.

**Smear -**

To scrub off speed on the steeps by dragging your hip across the snow.

**Snotsicle -**

Frozen nasal discharge, usually the result of cold-induced rhinorrhea.

**Snow Farm -**

Ski area depending primarily upon man-made snow.

**Snow Gun -**

Device used to mix water and compressed air to produce ersatz snow.

**Snow Scum -**

Skiers or snowboarders who ignore the Responsibility Code.

**Snow Toys -**

Devices used for gliding on snow by those who are unable to ski.

**Spring Conditions -**

When snow freezes at night and thaws during the day.

**Sproing (Gelandesprung) -**

Using your momentum and a double pole plant to lift your skis off the snow and clear an obstacle.

**Stack -**

To land a jump on a flat area.

**Steps -**

From double black diamond runs to the snow-holding limit of vertical, about 55 degrees.

**Stem -**

To push out or wedge the tail of the uphill ski.

**Sticks (Planks) -**

Skis; sticks are also what beginning children call their ski poles.

**Style -**

The individual expression of technique.

**Sucker Hole -**

Fleeting patch of blue in an otherwise overcast sky.

**Super-Sidecut -**

Modern recreational ski, with a sidecut of at least 14 mm.

**Sweet Spot -**

The balance point on a ski that produces optimum turning; the bigger sweet spot, the more forgiving the ski and the lower its performance in demanding situations.

**Swing Turns -**

Tip-pivoted parallel turns down the fall-line, with quick edge-checks.

**Take-off -**

The lip of a jump's in-run.

**Telemarking -**

Skiing alpine runs on free-heel skis, making turns by kneeling on one ski.

**Ten-Eighty -**

Aerial spin with three complete revolutions.

**Ten Eighty-Three -**

Ski School radio code for a lost child.

**Terrain Features -**

Natural or man-made obstacles on a run.

**Toilet Turns -**

Sloppy turns made from the pooping position.

**Torsional Rigidity -**

The resistance of a ski to twisting about its long axis, considered a desirable feature.

**Trail -**

Marked ski run.

**Transition -**

The sloped back side of a man-made jump, beyond the table-top.

**Traverse -**

Skiing across the fall line, without turning.

**Tree Well -**

Skier-trapping depression in the snow that surrounds a tree trunk.

**Trench -**

Deeply-carved track of a ski or snowboard.

**Trustafarian -**

Rich but ragged ski bum, pretending to be poor.

**Unweighting -**

Any movement, up or down, that reduces the downward pressure on a ski or snowboard.

**USSA -**

Acronym for **United States Ski Association**, a national race organization.

**Vermin -**

Groups of snowboarders or skiers blocking access to the lift lines.

**Vorlage -**

Moving one's weight forward just before a turn.

**Wedeln -**

Linking hip-wiggling turns down the fall line, feet and knees locked together, edge-set minimal.

**Wedge -**

Snowplow or double-stem position.

**Wide-Track -**

Parallel skiing with feet 12 to 18 inches apart.

**Winter Theme Park -**

A former ski area that has become over-run with snow toys.

**White Room -**

Deep, dry powder.

**Windshield Wipers -** Sloppy, heavily skidded turns.**Worm Turn -**

A turn initiated with a biff.

**Yard Sale -**

Losing articles of gear and clothing while tumbling downhill.

**Zipper Line -**

The fastest route down through a mogul field.

**Zorb -**

A huge sphere that rolls down the slope with a person inside; the worst of all snow toys.