

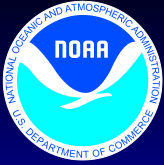
National Weather Service Flagstaff, AZ



We need your snow reports!
Please e-mail snow reports to
W-fgz.Webmaster@noaa.gov

Instructions for taking snow
measurements follows on the next pages.

Thanks!



Basic Snow Measuring Instructions

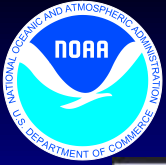


- What you need:
 - A yard stick
 - A flat surface...on the ground in an area not subject to drifting
- When to measure
 - Measure new snowfall as soon as possible after it ends, before settling and melting occur
 - During the event after a period of particularly heavy snowfall

Where to measure new snowfall

1. Find a nice, level place to measure where drifting or melting has not occurred (like a snowboard)
2. Slide snow stick or ruler into snow until it reaches the ground/board surface
3. Read value on snow stick (value is always to nearest tenth of an inch, like 3.4 inches)
4. If using snowboard, sweep it clean.





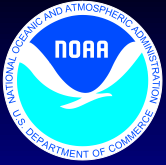
Do not measure under a tree!

Snow measured under a tree



Notice that only 3.0 inches of snow has accumulated here





Measure in the open

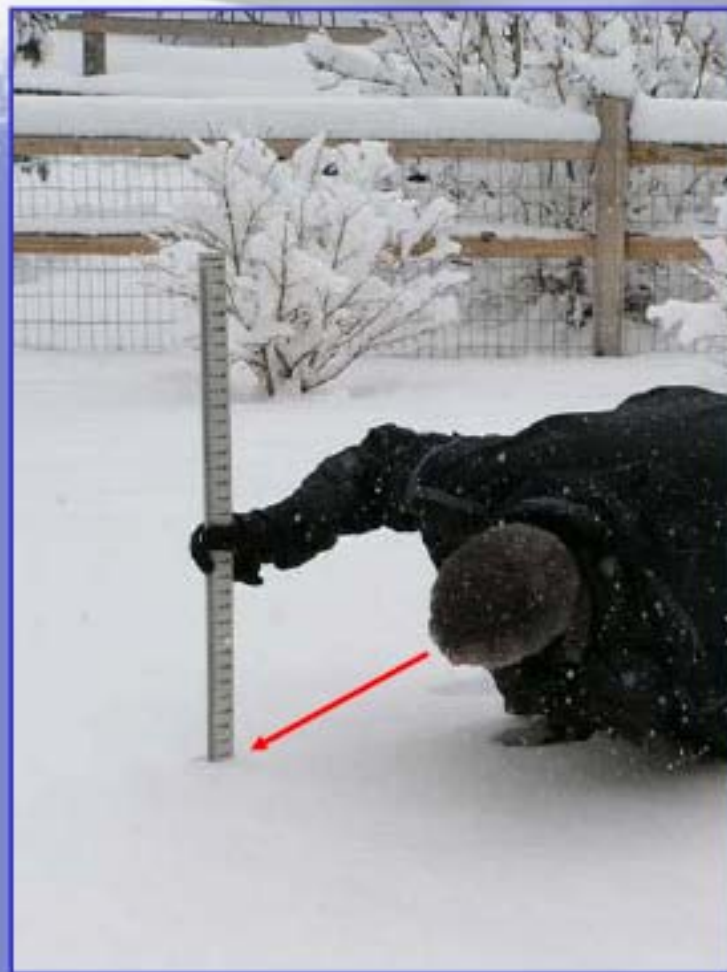
Snow measured in the open



Whereas 6.5 inches has fallen in the open



Angle of Measurement



Measure at eye level, as an angle will give you an inaccurate measurement





If you are using a snowboard...



Replace the Board



snowboard placement 1



After you have measured the snow on your board, clean it off and replace it on top of the newly fallen snow. Be sure to mark its location. Now you are ready for the next snowstorm.

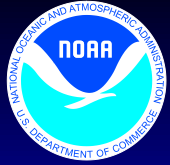
If you are measuring on the ground, take your measurement, e-mail us, then you are done. Simply pick a new spot for new measurements.



Please e-mail your snowfall reports to W-fgz.Webmaster@noaa.gov

When e-mailing us, let us know the following:

- How much snow has fallen
- Where your measurement was taken
- What time your measurement was taken
- Any other notable items of interest such as...
 - Wind damage
 - Road closures
 - Any other effects from the heavy snow or other wintry precipitation



Please e-mail your snowfall reports to W-fgz.Webmaster@noaa.gov



Tips:

- Please take a measurement and e-mail it to us at the following times:
 - At the end of the event
 - During the event after a period of particularly heavy snowfall
- Do not measure in snow drifts!
- Make sure the measuring locations are representative of the average snowfall at your location
- It is best to measure in numerous spots then calculate an average snowfall amount. Then report this average.
- Don't measure "artificial accumulations", such as plowed piles, large drifts, or shoveled snow.

Thank you for your help!

