

centimeters (high rise) in the air.

- ◆ The traditional camber of the ski provides power underfoot, precision, rebound, and edge hold.
- ◆ Traditional cambered skis are the quickest for turn initiation and provide the strongest tip pull into the turn but are more demanding and require more effort and accuracy of movement than early rise skis.
- ◆ Early rise allows easier and more forgiving turn initiation than a traditional ski while providing smooth transitions between turns. It also offers good turn versatility.
- ◆ The smaller the early rise the faster and more precise the turn initiation. Conversely, the longer and higher the rise the slower the initiation. The longer the rise the easier and more forgiving the ski will be.
- ◆ The longer and higher the rise the more the ski will float in variable and soft snow conditions. It supports easy turn initiation but, again, the turn initiation will be slower because the tip will take a little longer to engage.
- ◆ These types of skis still boast plenty of performance but they represent more ease and forgiveness for all-day performance.

TIP AND TAIL ROCKER WITH TRADITIONAL CAMBER UNDERFOOT

This ski profile has the same tip characteristics as the early rise models, but the tail also rises up. The all-mountain skis in this category often feature 70% traditional baseline camber with 15% tip and 15% tail rocker, while the more powder-specific skis have 50% camber and 50% tip and tail rocker.

- ◆ Easy turn initiation and turn completion, requiring less energy to drive it.
- ◆ Very forgiving.
- ◆ Transitions easily between turns but lacks the power and rebound that a traditional tail provides.
- ◆ Good flotation in soft snow, powder, and variable snow conditions.
- ◆ Traditional camber provides edge grip, power, energy, and all-mountain versatility.

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THE GOODS ON GEAR: EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS BASED ON STUDENT PROFICIENCY AND TERRAIN PREFERENCES

SKIER PROFICIENCY	IDEAL SKI CHARACTERISTICS	HOW THE CHARACTERISTICS WORK	THE RIGHT CHARACTERISTICS	MANUFACTURER OPTIONS (For more details see the "Web Extras" for 32 Degrees at TheSnowPros.org)	WAIST WIDTH (MILLIMETERS)	TURN RADIUS (METERS)
BEGINNER	Early tip rise; tip and tail rise. Well-tuned traditional camber with 1-2 degree base bevel, detuned tip and tail.	Rise can make it easier to steer or guide the ski, which is an easier skill to learn than tipping and carving the ski. Easy turn initiation helps reduce tip-crossing in a wedge. Because the tips don't pull into the turn, there's less risk of them crossing and overturning.	Most important is a well-tuned and waxed ski.	Two companies make beginner skis with rocker.	72-80 mm	16-18 m
INTERMEDIATE	Generally, the ski features 70% traditional baseline camber and 30% rise. Tip or tip-and-tail rocker.	Easier to initiate, more forgiving, and less demanding. The tip rise allows the skier to be steered or guided through the turn (rather than require tipping) and permits an easy release to initiate the new turn. Turns are more shaped—rather than carved—at initiation. Full rocker and reverse camber are excellent powder skis as they provide maximum float and easy steering at slow speeds.	Place the ski bases close together, then see how much the tips "open" (1-3 cm) and how far back the opening goes (15-20 cm is best). Tails should be about 1-2 cm open and start 5-10 cm back.	Almost all major companies.	72-86 mm (lower level) 86-120 mm (upper level)	15-34 m
ADVANCED	Match rocker type and waist width to specific preferences (see the specific tabs).				68-140+ mm	15-21 m