

Ski and Snowboard Lesson Level Description

First Timers – Skiers and Boarders

The First Timer level is the easiest level to spot because these are the students that have not been on skis or a snowboard at a ski resort before. In the backyard does not count as having experience and means these students would still be placed in the First Timer category. First Timers will be introduced to the equipment, your responsibility code, learn the basic skills to perform movements needed. Students will learn how to load and unload the uphill surface lift (Magic Carpet) at our beginner area. Students will also learn to place feet in skis and ratchet on a snowboard.

Entry Level Ski

Entry Level students are just starting to develop the skills to turn. They are generally skiing on green terrain or the Magic Carpet or the Penny lift. These students put on and take off their own skis and successfully walk up hill, using either side stepping or herringbone. They can also demonstrate the skills required to get on and off the lift, including the ability to stop by turning or with a wedge.

Intermediate Ski

Students at the intermediate level are skiing on green and blue terrain, using wedge turns. They may be wedge turns moving toward parallel turns, but not fully confident in their skills. Students are progressing toward matching their skis. Turns show speed control, the ability to stop, and turns of varying size and rhythm.

Advanced Ski

Advanced level students are making strong turns, trying black diamond trails, and skiing aggressively. These skiers can effectively control their speed by the shape of their turns. This is the highest level lesson we offer and students should be comfortable skiing the whole mountain.”

Entry Level Snowboard

Entry Level students are just starting to use the Penny lift or are still on the Magic Carpet but are not first timers. These students can tie their boots correctly, can put on and take off their snowboard properly, one foot glide (practice down small side hill first, keep board flat and straight). They are able to stop on at least one edge and make choppy, hesitant turns. They may also only use one edge while coming down the trail, in what we refer to as a “floating leaf.” Students should be making J turns to stop, and traverse with turn.

Intermediate Snowboard

The intermediate level students are riding all green terrain and most blue terrain in good conditions. These students can demonstrate controlled direction change, skidded S-turns, Semi-Carved turns, and Skidded tornado turns. They are beginning to carve and make turns of varying sizes while understanding that this affects their speed.

Advanced Snowboard

Advanced snowboard students can ride all blues and most back terrain. They are starting to be comfortable riding varying snow conditions, have smooth S turns, lower body separation. Students should be comfortable on moguls, and with beginner freestyle moves. These students turn with flow and consistency and are carving more than they are skidding their turns. Students are able to carve on Phelps, ride Red hat moguls, do Ollies, and minor freestyle tricks, riders should be comfortable using the whole mountain.