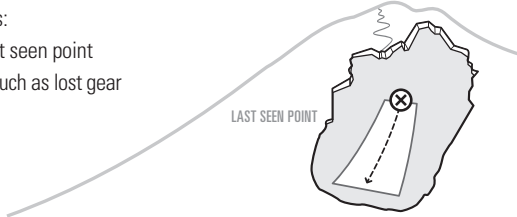


COMPANION RESCUE

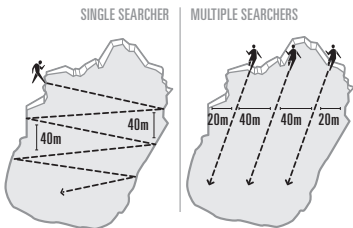
- 1 **Choose a Leader** to organize and direct the rescue
 - Be in charge – delegate tasks
- 2 **Assess Safety**
 - Avoid travel on adjacent slopes or above the avalanche site if this could trigger additional avalanches
- 3 **Head Count:** how many are missing?
 - Identify the last seen point; mark if possible and question witnesses
- 4 **Turn All Transceivers to Search** – do a physical check
- 5 **Determine the Search Area:** look for signs of victims on the surface, then start searching below the last seen point in areas of deposition

Priority search areas:

- Fall line below last seen point
- In line with clues such as lost gear
- In terrain traps



- 6 **Signal Search**
 - Send one or two searchers ahead
 - Use 40m search strips
 - Look/listen to transceiver
 - Investigate visual clues (pull out of snow; mark if possible)
 - Prepare probes, shovels, first aid kit

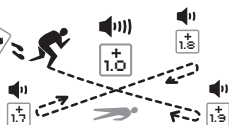


7 Coarse Search – move fast

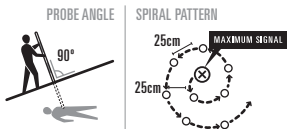
- Start a coarse search when a signal is detected
- Slow down as you get closer to the signal

**8 Fine Search** – move slow

- Use a systematic bracketing pattern to find the closest point to the signal
- Have only one searcher doing the fine search

**9 Pinpoint Using Probe**

- Use a spiral probe pattern
- Leave probe in place

**10 Dig** as fast as possible; dig a large hole in a V shape

- Dig from below and toward the tip of the probe
- Change shovellers often
- Be careful near the end of the probe

**11 Patient Care**

- Clear the airway; stabilize ABCs
- Protect neck and spine
- Treat for injuries/shock/hypothermia
- Leave patient in hole where found if safe

Call for Outside Help only if extra rescuers are available or after everyone has been recovered

