

Test 2002 *Part 2:* Freeride

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THE SCENE: BIG WHITE

There was a time when Freeride skis were defined by fat waist width and big, honkin' shovels that gave crud-bustin' burliness. But no longer—the skis in this year's Freeride crop are an incredibly varied lot. If anything, this category is definitely morphing into one where hard snow capability is a must to score well overall. Merely slicin' and dicin' tricky snow conditions no longer cuts it. Check each of the comments our testers made carefully, and compare with the numeric data and your own analysis of how you like to ski. There's now something for everyone in this category.

THE RUN

Testers were able to get their first few warm-up turns on the gentle, yet ungroomed, Paradise trail before cutting skier's right onto Dragon's Tongue, a steep, consistently pitched mogul run. Some fine powder shots were found in the glades to the left of Dragon's Tongue; here, our testers cut back onto Paradise where they appraised each ski's cruising and carving chops. One tester commented that "Dragon's Tongue provided great versatility—the bumps let you know which skis flexed and which didn't, and the flatter top quarter of the run was excellent for landing small jumps."

THE CONDITIONS

Day one of the 2002 *Ski Canada* Test featured the perfect conditions for which Big White Resort is known: a frosty coating of five cm of dry Okanagan powder, bright sunshine and breezy conditions that kept the snow dry until the last hour or so of the test. As the spring sun warmed the south-facing slope, snow conditions turned challenging. Temperatures ranged from -5 C at the start to +2 C at the end.

TEST CRITERIA

ACCELERATION: once the turn is initiated, how quickly it is completed.

BUMPS: forgiveness in moguls, how well the ski either absorbs or steers through the troughs.

CARVING: similar to edge-hold, how well the ski holds on an arced turn without chattering or letting go.

INITIATION: how easily the ski enters a turn when tip pressure is applied.

LONG RADIUS: how the ski holds its arc or line at speed in long, sweeping carved turns.

QUICKNESS: how well the ski reacts to directional changes.

SHORT RADIUS: when pressure and steering are applied, how well and how quickly the ski completes a turn.

STABILITY: as speed builds in a turn, how the ski feels (as in shaky or loose vs. quiet or firm) underfoot as well as the tip.

VERSATILITY: how well the ski does in both short- and long-radius turns at different speeds and snow conditions.



Photo: Insight



Photo: Dave Schwirtlich

CATEGORIES

FREERIDE: These skis are designed to be used off-piste in powder, crud, windblown, corn—wherever your adventurous spirit leads. However, manufacturers recognize that most of the skiing done at major resorts takes place in a highly manipulated environment (groomed slopes, artificial snow surfaces), hence, Freeride skis are far more versatile than fat boards designed for heli-skiing.

SLALOM RACE: Fans of the lightning-quick turn, rejoice! These state-of-the-art hot-rods are very similar to those under the boots of top World Cup racers. They're short, they're razor-sharp and they change direction at the

slightest command. These skis are significantly less versatile than recreational slalom skis of old. (Results appeared in Buyer's Guide 2002.)

GS RACE: Some companies build take-no-prisoners racing machines designed to be run up to—and over—the red-line. Others try to build more versatility and comfort into the ski, which may not win World Cup races but, then again, when was the last time you saw a recreational skier on the World Cup? (Results appeared in Buyer's Guide 2002.)

FREE CARVE: If Freeride skis are the sport-utility vehicles of high-performance skis, then these are the sports

sedans. Similar in sidecut and construction to GS Race skis, Free Carvers provide excellent performance across a wide range of conditions and terrain. If Freeride is considered a western category, Free Carve is often the first choice of eastern skiers. (Results to appear next issue.)

SPORT CARVE: This category is for value-conscious skiers willing to sacrifice a bit of top-end performance in return for saving a few dollars. It's also the category that always amazes the testers, most of whom can't get over how much recreational skis have improved in the past five years. (Results to appear in the Winter issue of *Ski Canada*.)

TEST RESULTS LISTED ALPHABETICALLY

Atomic Beta Ride 11.20



EDITORS' CHOICE

Stats	Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating:	★★★★ / ★★★★½ / ★★★★
Binding:	Atomic Centro with Atomic Free Flex Plate (33cm)
Sugg. Retail:	\$1,099
Best In:	Groomed, Carving, Long Radius/Stability, Groomed, Carving
Skier Weight:	Both/Both*
Skier Style:	Both/Both**
Conditions:	All/All***
Skier Ability:	Advanced > Expert/Advanced
Sweet Spot:	Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Fun, lively, stable—all the things I'm looking for in an all-mountain ski." (Baycroft) "Wicked to carve in; super versatile in all conditions." (Raine) "Monster of the mountain, but a bit of a brute in bumps. Carves like a dream in any condition." (Weiss)

Women's Comments: "You will be movin' and groovin' on this smooth freerider. Initiates the turn almost effortlessly. Extremely versatile. A fun ride." (Gibson) "Would be a great mileage ski for a strong intermediate—wouldn't outgrow it too quickly. Felt comfortable on a variety of terrain, at various speeds and turn shapes." (Bower) "This ski has enough zip to replace my morning coffee. Agile and versatile for any skier level." (Marpole)

Consensus: The new 11.20 will win skiers and influence buying decisions as one of the best skis in the Freeride category. Demands an enthusiastic pilot at the wheel, but rewards him or her with explosive performance in all conditions, save for perhaps bumps. If a lot of your freeriding is done on the groomed, don't look any further.

Blizzard Sigma FR 20

Stats	Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating:	★★★ / ★★ / ★★
Length:	185/165
Binding:	Atomic with 27mm Centro plate
Sugg. Retail:	\$649
Best In:	Stability, Long Radius, Groomed/Stability, Groomed, Off-Piste
Skier Weight:	Heavy/Heavy
Skier Style:	Aggressive/Aggressive
Conditions:	All/All
Skier Ability:	Expert/Advanced
Sweet Spot:	Forward > Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Very powerful big arcing ski! Must stay forward to make it growl. Toys for big boys." (Stein) "Had to 'weight' for the ski to react. Once initiated it came through nicely." (Robinson) "Loved the soft and enjoyed the air. Stiff tail." (Coutts)

Women's Comments: "The tail was very snappy and stiff. Sometimes hard to control. This ski is for a heavier person who is aggressive, powerful." (Coulter) "I liked this ski in the crud. Sliced right through it like butter. Good all-mountain ski, nice in the bumps." (Bower) "Big tail with non-progressive flex so it was hard to start turning if you don't charge the tip." (Verreault)

Consensus: Both men and women felt that big boys only need apply for this job. The FR20 hooked up well with some of the heavier male testers who praised its stability at speed and smooth long-radius turns. Two testers even praised its "airborne" performance. Its stiff tail makes it more suitable for a powerful, aggressive skier. Several women testers thought the Sigma was a bit lifeless.

Dynastar Intuitiv 74

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★1/2 / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★
Length: 188/182
Binding: Look PLZ Demo
Sugg. Retail: \$999

Best In: Initiation, Off-Piste, Bumps/Off-Piste, Versatility, Short Radius

Skier Weight: Light/Light
Skier Style: Finesse/Finesse
Conditions: Soft/Soft
Skier Ability: Advanced/Intermediate
Sweet Spot: Forward > Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "For a lighter, finesse skier—turned quickly, but seemed wacky and nervous. Strange ski." (Robinson) "All over the map, super-nervous at speed, likes light but not heavy snow." (Coulters) "Too much caffeine on this ski—turned quick in the bumps." (Michaud)

Women's Comments: "Initiates very easily. Quick underfoot. No effort required to start the turn. Fantastic ski for a finesse skier." (Coulter) "Enjoyed this ski for its ease of turning and forgiveness, though I was a bit hesitant to crank it up and go super-fast on the groomed. This ski would be suited to variable conditions in the west." (Bower) "Easy to ski but I found the tip too soft. Reacts well on bumpy terrain and seems quite versatile." (A. Michaud)

Consensus: The Intuitiv certainly has an intuition about making turns; it's turning them off that seems to be the hard part. If you're a light skier who can put up with some nervous performance, this is a great ski for taming tight spots and even moguls.

Elan MX Four Super

★ EDITORS' CHOICE (WOMEN)

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★1/2 / ★★★★★1/2 / ★★★★★1/2
Binding: Salomon SC
Sugg. Retail: \$599

Best In: Agility, Short Radius, Off-Piste/Agility, Versatility, Carving

Skier Weight: Light/Both
Skier Style: Finesse/Both
Conditions: All/All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Advanced
Sweet Spot: Forward > Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Shy like a mountain cat. Advanced intermediates will enjoy how it works in the powder." (Weiss) "Very agile once you found the forward sweet spot. Light and lively." (M. Michaud) "Worked well in bumps and off-piste, soft in the tip, definitely for light, finesse skiers." (Villeneuve)

Women's Comments: "I found this ski very easy to ski all-round. It felt light on my feet. Easy to move around in the bumps. Easy turning in soft snow." (Verreault) "Very nice ski. Very adaptable, stable. This ski gave me confidence after just a few turns and then you can turn up the performance. Liked the dimensions and weight." (Dunn) "I enjoyed this ski—turned easily. Completed the turn with stability. Ski was a bit light when you loaded it up on the groomed. Overall very enjoyable." (Bower)

Consensus: Like many great Elans from yesteryear, both male and female testers agree that the MX Four champions quickness, good edge-hold and finesse—just the ticket for many lighter-weight recreational skiers.

Fischer All Trax 74

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★1/2 / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★1/2
Length: 183/173
Sugg. Retail: \$649

Best In: Short Radius, Initiation, Groomed/Carving, Agility, Groomed

Skier Weight: Both > Heavier/Both
Skier Style: Both/Both
Conditions: All/All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Advanced
Sweet Spot: Forward > Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Fits the category well, lovely shovel for bumps and crud." (Coulters) "Quick in short radius at low speed. The tip of the ski is quick." (Villeneuve) "The Porsche of powder—can let you relax, a sporty, all-mountain feel to it." (Stein)

Women's Comments: "Get into the groove with this stable ski. It requires a strong effort on the initiation phase. Once you get the turn started, it reacts well." (Gibson) "A very stiff ski, hard to initiate, preferred long radius on groomed. Found it difficult to absorb in bumps." (Coulter) "This ski had great tail! It initiated a bit forward but completed the turn cleanly. A bit much for a lighter intermediate but a heavier advanced skier could get a lot of mileage from it." (Bower)

Consensus: Male testers hooked up better with the All Trax than our female testers did, but for a stronger, more aggressive freerider this could be your ticket. Both male and female testers commented on the AllTrax's burly shovel.

Head Super Cross Ti

★ EDITORS' CHOICE (WOMEN)

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★1/2 / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★1/2
Binding: Tyrolia Sympro 9 Demo (31mm) with 13mm Carve Plate
Sugg. Retail: \$925

Best In: Stability, Long Radius, Groomed/Stability, Long Radius, Groomed

Skier Weight: Heavier/Heavier
Skier Style: Both > Aggressive/Aggressive
Conditions: All/All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Tops in stability, excels at hardpack, large sweet spot, you can play anywhere on the ski." (Weiss) "A great ungroomed cruiser. Amazing stability in lumpy bumpy terrain—especially ungroomed. A little long for my liking in bumps." (Sinclair) "Tons of fun, holds an arc, can hammer the bumps like a pro." (Baycroft)

Women's Comments: "Certainly one of my best skis. Very easy to initiate. Stable, reacts quickly on short radius, easy to ski bumps. I loved it!" (A. Michaud) "Whoa! Definitely a power ski. Could plow through anything. Great for more advanced powerful skiers that just go for it." (Gamblin) "Offers a nice, smooth, stable ride. Easy to initiate, extremely agile." (Gibson)

Consensus: A big-mountain ski with true versatility, the Super Cross Ti is definitely worth checking out if you're looking for a freeride ski that excels in more than just soft snow. Some women felt you needed a fair bit of power to get maximum performance, while others thought it was "automatic."

K2 Axis X

★ EDITORS' CHOICE

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★ / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★1/2
Length: 188, 181/174, 167
Binding: Salomon SR 810
Sugg. Retail: \$800

Best In: Stability, Groomed, Long Radius/Groomed, Stability, Carving

Skier Weight: Both > Heavier/Both
Skier Style: Both/Both
Conditions: All/All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Intermediate > Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Stable, smooth and predictable at speed." (Sivers) "Very light; it's quick in the bumps and fast to initiate." (Villeneuve) "Playful in powder, bumps and air, very forgiving." (Raine)

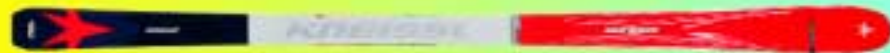
Women's Comments: "Yehea! I loved this ski. Incredibly versatile, smooth enough for an intermediate skier, powerful enough for an expert. Great in all conditions, long and short turns. I felt invincible on this ski." (A. Terwiel) "Great in the trees. Agile and quick. Performed better from centre back for bumps and powder, but had to be driven hard to accelerate on groomed." (Gamblin) "This was a nice ski in the bumps. Very forgiving. Easy to turn in short radius. Came around quickly and had zip when pushed." (Yunker)

Consensus: Versatility, thy name is K2 Axis. The Mod X suspension system gives this ski a smooth, supple ride, yet it can also handle the bumps with aplomb. Both men and women praised its easy manoeuvrability in the moguls.

Kneissl Ergo Speed X (men's only)

Stats *Men*
 Test Rating: ★★½/2
 Length: 178
 Binding: Marker M9 2SP
 Sugg. Retail: \$600

Best In: Groomed, Carving, Stability
Skier Weight: Both
Skier Style: Both
Conditions: All > Hard
Skier Ability: Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred



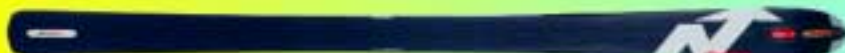
Men's Comments: "Allows you to challenge the mountain. Can be taken anywhere you want to play. Has a heavy, solid feel so bumps must be soft and fluffy to ski well." (Weiss) "Very powerful carver. Ski adapted well to most conditions. Excelled on groomed." (Raine) "Eats up the hardpack. GS turns at GS speed, buy it short if you want versatility." (Stein)

Consensus: A freecarve ski in the freeride category, perhaps? The Kneissl excelled for several of our male testers on hard snow at high speed, though taking it through the bumps proved to be a challenge. Smaller testers found the supplied ski a bit too long.

Nordica W80 (men's)

Stats *Men / Women / Overall*
 Test Rating: ★★½ / ★★ / ★★
 Length: 178/173, 163
 Binding: Atomic Demo
 Sugg. Retail: \$980/\$860

Best In: Off-piste, Long Radius, Stability/Groomed, Agility, Bumps
Skier Weight: Both > Heavier/Lighter > Both
Skier Style: Both/Finesse > Both
Conditions: Hard > All/Soft > All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Intermediate > Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



W70 AL (women's)



Men's Comments: "Kind of like the tough kid in school—can be used in situations where a little muscle is required." (Robinson) "Had me looking for powder—in slush it was easy to change direction." (M. Michaud) "Floats like a boat in powder—take it out for a nice dinner and you won't be disappointed later that evening." (Stein)

Women's Comments: "Better suited to a lighter skier. A great ski for an intermediate who wants to get good in bumps. Nice forgiving ride." (Bower) "Nice and light. Quick in the bumps and off-piste. A bit difficult to find the sweet spot on groomed and in big arcs. Fun for all-round skiing." (Dunn) "A hero ski, stable and smooth but will do a quick turn, too. Very predictable—nice to land on after grabbing some air." (A. Terwiel)

Consensus: A definite case where female testers were on a detuned version of the men's ski. The W80 favoured an aggressive approach, while its distaff cousin preferred a light touch. Meat-eating alpha males who want an aggressive ski should check these out, and women who pride themselves on agility and style to conquer the mountain will be rewarded, too. Gals, if you're looking for a good bump ski, give the W70 a look.

Rossignol Bandit XX (men's)

★ **EDITORS' CHOICE (MEN)**

★ **EDITORS' CHOICE (WOMEN)**

Stats *Men / Women / Overall*
 Test Rating: ★★★★★ / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★
 Length: 184, 177/170
 Binding: Rossignol Axial 120 SS
 Sugg. Retail: \$840/\$840

Best In: Off-Piste, Groomed, Stability/Off-Piste, Carving, Initiation
Skier Weight: Both/Both
Skier Style: Both/Both
Conditions: All/All
Skier Ability: Advanced > Expert/Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Forward > Centred



Bandit XXL (women's)



Men's Comments: "Felt really light. Solid underfoot with a big sweet spot." (Sivers) "Go-everywhere, do-everything ski. Will make you master of the mountain. I like how it carves with even pressure." (Weiss) "Easy to swivel through soft snow and chop." (Stein)

Women's Comments: "Pump up the volume and your turns with this freerider. Great stability and acceleration through all turn sizes in all conditions." (Gibson) "A very exciting, dynamic, responsive ski. It felt like I was flying over the snow. Very smooth." (Coulter) "Very easy, I could make it do whatever I wanted it to do. A true freerider!" (Milne)

Consensus: Rossignol has a winner in the newly revamped Bandit XX. Most testers found this an easy-to-ski, versatile performer on a wide, forgiving platform. The 74mm waist floats smoothly over both powder and crud. Many remarked on how well it skied the bumps, especially for a wider-waisted ski.

Salomon Scream 10 Pilot (men's)

★ **EDITORS' CHOICE (MEN)**

Stats *Men / Women / Overall*
 Test Rating: ★★★★★ / ★★★★★ / ★★★★★
 Binding: Salomon S11 SC
 Sugg. Retail: \$1,175/\$975 (binding included)

Best In: Initiation, Agility, Off-Piste/Initiation, Short Radius, Groomed
Skier Weight: Lighter/Lighter
Skier Style: Finesse/Finesse > Both
Conditions: Soft/Soft > All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Intermediate
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



Scream 8 Pilot (women's)



Men's Comments: "A great ski for me. Found that it floated and did everything well." (Belware) "For the lighter, expert skier. Turning is effortless, but the tip felt unstable at higher speeds." (Sinclair) "This ski will do anything. Any radius, anytime. Probably more suited to lighter, finesse skiers, but good for big guys too if you stay in the centre." (M. Michaud)

Women's Comments: "Thumbs up for this ski. You feel like a hero turn after turn. Consistently smooth and peppy. Easy to initiate." (Gibson) "What a terrific ski! Lighten your style and it's quick and agile. Add strength and power and it carves like crazy. Perfect for the person who wants just one ski to take them everywhere." (A. Terwiel) "A very light ski. It feels as if you don't have anything under your boots. Easy to initiate turns, lots of fun in short radius." (Marpole)

Consensus: A ski worth doing some serious dieting for, both the men and women agreed that lighter Pilots would do the most screaming. "Initiates like a teenager on the first date," one wag wrote, and indeed, Salomon has a winner with this integrated ski/binding combination.

Scott USA Intoxica FR

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★1/2 / ★★★1/2 / ★★
Length: 185/175
Binding: Tyrolia Sympro 8 with 12mm Acerbis plate
Sugg. Retail: \$665

Best In: Off-Piste, Stability, Long Radius/Off-Piste, Long Radius, Carving
Skier Weight: Both > Heavier/Both > Heavier
Skier Style: Both > Power/Both > Power
Conditions: All/Soft > All
Skier Ability: Advanced/Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "Very hard to make short-radius turns. Difficult to figure out." (Villeneuve) "All over the map, wanted to start a turn even if I didn't, difficult to bring around—confused me." (Sinclair) "Definitely better on hardpack—he ain't my brother, he's heavy." (Robinson)

Women's Comments: "Nice work! Can be effortless but pick it up a pitch and these babies roll. Fairly versatile ski—all-mountain charm." (Gamblin) "Ski needs to be enrolled in a beginner gymnastics program. It lacks agility, flexibility and power." (Marpole) "Very light, flexible, soft ski. Great for a lighter finesse skier in all terrain conditions." (Coultter)

Consensus: Male testers couldn't quite dial in the Intoxica, hence were a little less than intoxicated with its performance. Those testers that could get it to work felt you needed some muscle to wrestle it around—perhaps a ski for heavyweight, high-powered skiers to handle. Female testers scored it higher, but were all over the hill in their comments.

Volant Gravity Power (men's)

★ **EDITORS' CHOICE (MEN)**

★ **EDITORS' CHOICE (WOMEN)**

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★ / ★★★★★ / ★★★1/2
Length: 185, 180/170, 165
Binding: Tyrolia Sympro 9
Sugg. Retail: \$799/\$799

Best In: Off-Piste, Initiation, Long Radius/Groomed, Initiation, Stability
Skier Weight: Both/Lighter
Skier Style: Both/Finesse > Both
Conditions: All/Soft
Skier Ability: Advanced/Intermediate > Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



Men's Comments: "I was tired when I first got on this ski, but it took it away—call it Ski-agra." (Belware) "As sure-footed as a mountain goat on the rock, very friendly and stable." (Stein) "Has the utility of a Swiss Army knife—great agility and versatility for lighter finesse skiers." (Weiss)

Women's Comments: "Found the ski there all the time. Not zippy but did carve any turn I asked it to and did not throw me around in the bumps." (Yunker) "Great skil Fun-loving, easy-turner in soft off-piste and more challenging terrain. Worked well on the groomed, but don't push it." (Keith) "Smooth, stable ski. Carves well if you don't overpower it. Nice for light, quick turns with a good edge set." (A. Terwiel)

Consensus: Freeride winners for Volant, with many testers praising both on- and off-piste performance. Unlike some previous Volant models in this category, these skis reacted quickly and were easy to turn—great for manoeuvring in tight spots like the trees. Both models are superbly versatile all-round performers.

Völkl Vertigo Motion

★ **EDITORS' CHOICE (MEN)**

Stats Men / Women / Overall
Test Rating: ★★★★★ / ★★★1/2 / ★★1/2
Length: 184/170
Binding: Marker integrated binding
Sugg. Retail: \$1,480 (binding included)

Best In: Long Radius, Groomed, Stability/Groomed, Long Radius, Stability
Skier Weight: Both/Both
Skier Style: Both/Both
Conditions: All/All
Skier Ability: Advanced > Expert/Advanced
Sweet Spot: Centred/Centred



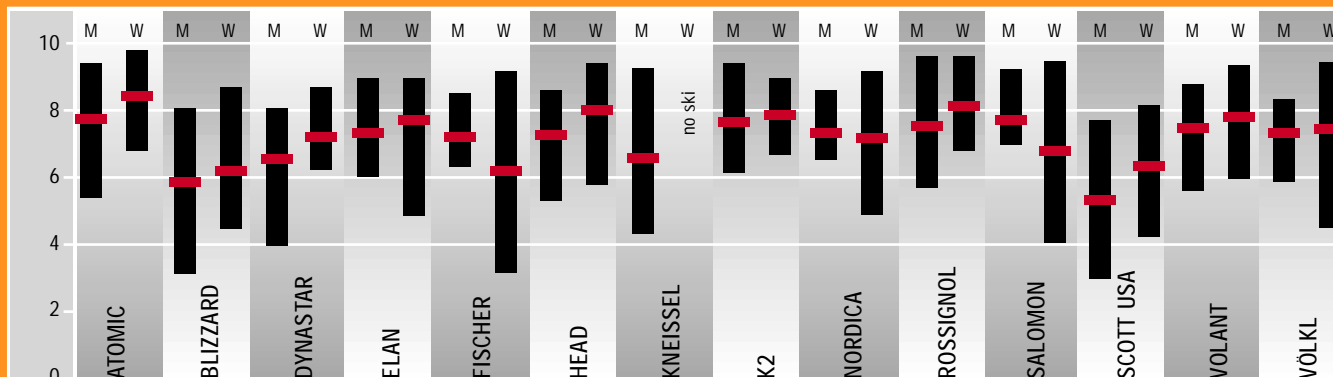
Men's Comments: "Felt like I was on rails—smooth, smooth, smooth. Nice pop from the tail." (Sivers) "Fun, quick and lively, great on the groomed—predictable." (Baycroft) "Athletic high-end skiers will love to power this ski. Solid in all conditions. I'd categorize it as a mountain race ski—speed is your friend." (Weiss)

Women's Comments: "This ski had the energy of a Border collie and the bite of a pit bull. A great carver in all snow types." (Marpole) "A very stable ski, better on groomed and powder than bumps. Harder to initiate than other skis in this category. Reacts better in long turns." (Coultter) "Love it! Smooth as silk. Great in bumps and hardpack. Excellent all-round. I'll take it for a ride again and again." (Keith)

Consensus: The Völkl was a real love/hate affair for many of our testers, with high praise being showered on its groomed snow performance, while being seriously downgraded in the moguls. A great choice for expert all-mountain skiers who cling to the notion that they should be on race skis.

Freeride: Test 2002

The following chart shows the highest and lowest marks given to the ski by the testers, and the overall tester average. Men/Women each brand.



BIG WHITE KUDOS



Big White's Happy Valley development exploded onto the scene two years ago with residential development, daylodge, shops, restaurants and an awesome access gondola that takes skiers back up to Big White's "base" area. But then any ski area valley would be happy if it had \$47 million injected into it!

Check it out this winter or join the Ski Canada Test at Big White this spring (April 7-13) for an enormous manufacturer's demos program and a test of your own.

www.bigwhite.com • 800/663-2772



THE SKI CANADA TEST TEAM: FREERIDE

MEN



ROBIN BAYCROFT
Ht, Wt, Age: 6', 165 lbs, 29
Style: Athletic/Aggressive, CSIA Level IV
Sponsor: Atomic
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Volant, Head



KRIS OETTER
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'9", 150 lbs, 38
Style: Speed/Finesse
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Blizzard, Salomon, Volant



DREW SIVERS
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'7", 145 lbs, 31
Style: Aggressive
Sponsor: Sporting Life
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Vökl, Dynastar



FRED BELWARE
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'8", 187 lbs, 64
Style: Finesse, CSIA Level I, "Senior" Skier
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: K2, Salomon, Nordica



WILLY RAINE
Ht, Wt, Age: 6', 200 lbs, 31
Style: Athletic/Finesse, Former National Team
Sponsor: Rossignol
Top 3 Picks: Rossignol, Atomic, K2



MARK STEIN
Ht, Wt, Age: 6'4", 205 lbs, 41
Style: Athletic, CSCF Level III
Sponsor: Head
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Elan, Rossignol



ROSS COUTTS
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'11", 190 lbs, 38
Style: Aggressive/Finesse, CSIA Level IV
Sponsor: Atomic
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, K2, Volant



CHRIS ROBINSON
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'9", 160 lbs, 41
Style: Finesse, ex-National Team
Sponsor: Salomon
Top 3 Picks: Rossignol, Kneissl, Elan



JACQUES VILLENEUVE
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'8", 143 lbs, 36
Style: Finesse, CSIA Level IV
Sponsor: Head
Top 3 Picks: K2, Rossignol, Volant



MIKE MICHAUD
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'10", 175 lbs, 26
Style: Athletic/Finesse, CSIA Level III
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Salomon, Volant



JEFF SINCLAIR
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'8", 165 lbs, 37
Style: Athletic, CSIA Level IV
Sponsor: Head
Top 3 Picks: Salomon, Elan, Head



MIKE WEISS
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'4", 138 lbs, 49
Style: Athletic/Finesse, USSCA III, CSCF IV, Professor, Georgian College, Ski Resort Mgt.
Sponsor: Atomic
Top 3: Volant, Atomic, Rossignol



WOMEN



ALLYSON BOWER
Ht, Wt, Age: 6'2", 175 lbs, 29
Style: Athletic/Finesse, CSIA
Level III
Sponsor: Rossignol
Top 3 Picks: Volant, K2,
Rossignol



MARNIE GIBSON
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'2", 125 lbs, 27
Style: Finesse, CSIA Level III
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Völkl, Rossignol,
Atomic



KIT MILNE
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'4", 120 lbs, 65
Style: Athletic, Medium Speed
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Head, Rossignol,
Atomic/Dynastar (tie)



KIM MICHAUD
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'10", 175 lbs, 26
Style: Aggressive, CSIA Level III
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Elan, Atomic,
Dynastar



ANNE KEITH
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'4", 160 lbs, 37
Style: Athletic/Finesse, CSIA
Level IV
Sponsor: Elan
Top 3 Picks: Völkl, Fischer,
Atomic



ANNE TERWIEL
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'9", 135 lbs, 37
Style: Athletic/Finesse, CSIA
Level III
Sponsor: Head
Top 3 Picks: K2, Blizzard,
Salomon



COLLEEN DUNN
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'8", 160 lbs
Style: Athletic, CSIA Level III
Sponsor: Rossignol
Top 3 Picks: Head, Atomic,
Rossignol



MARTHA MARPOLE
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'8", 118 lbs, 27
Style: Athletic/Aggressive, CSIA
Level III
Sponsor: Rossignol
Top 3 Picks: Salomon, Völkl,
Rossignol



SUNNY VERREAULT
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'8", 135 lbs, 30
Style: Aggressive, CSIA Level IV
Sponsor: Atomic
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Nordica,
Elan/K2 (tie)



ALANNAH GAMBLIN
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'7", 150 lbs, 25
Style: Athletic/Aggressive, CSCF
Level II
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Nordica,
Head



ANNE MICHAUD
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'3", 125 lbs, 41
Style: Aggressive
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Atomic, Rossignol,
Head



JOANNE YOUNKER
Ht, Wt, Age: 5'7", 142 lbs, 39
Style: Athletic/Finesse, CSIA
Level IV
Sponsor: None
Top 3 Picks: Head, K2/Nordica
(tie), Salomon