

# avalanche

## 1. [ˈævələːnʃ] n

1. лавина, снежный обвал  
avalanche of ice - ледовый обвал
2. масса (чего-л.); лавина  
avalanche of papers [letters, circulars] - поток газет [писем, циркуляров]  
avalanche of blows [missiles] - град ударов [снарядов]  
avalanche of words - поток слов  
an avalanche of books fell off the shelf - с полки обрушилась лавина книг
3. физ. лавина

## 2. [ˈævələːnʃ] v

1. сползать лавиной (о снеге и т. п.)
2. заваливать, засыпать

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Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**ava·lanche** [avalanche avalanches avalanched avalanching] BrE [ˈævələˌnʃ]

ˈNAme [ˈævələntʃ] (NAme also snow-slide) noun

a mass of snow, ice and rock that falls down the side of a mountain

- alpine villages destroyed in an avalanche
- He was killed in an avalanche while skiing.
- (figurative) We received an avalanche of letters in reply to our advertisement

See also: ↑snowslide

### Word Origin:

late 18th cent.: from French, alteration of the Alpine dialect word **lavanche** (of unknown origin), influenced by **aval** 'descend'; compare with Italian **valanga**

### Example Bank:

- They died in an avalanche.
- They were killed by an avalanche in the Swiss Alps.
- We've been almost buried under the avalanche of letters.
- the avalanche of lawlessness threatening to engulf our civilization
- The issue has generated an avalanche of controversy.

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Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**av** [a] **lanche** /ˈævələˌntʃ -ləntʃ/ BrE ˈ AmE ˈ noun [countable]

[Date: 1700-1800; Language: French; Origin: French dialect lavantse, avalantse]

1. a large mass of snow, ice, and rocks that falls down the side of a mountain:  
Two skiers were killed in the avalanche.
2. **an avalanche of something** a very large number of things such as letters, messages etc that arrives suddenly at the same time:  
The school received an avalanche of applications.

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Freakuency Pack

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15000 **6946**<sup>COCA</sup>  
RANGE: **10k** AVALANCHE <sup>1611</sup>  
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avalanches <sup>266</sup>  
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