# 2021 Best Boots for Older Skiers



America's Best Bootfitters (ABB) is the organization that annually provides comprehensive ski boot reviews and other ski boot-related services. Each Spring, the ABB test team evaluates next season's boots and publishes those results on the America's

Best Bootfitters website and in the 2021 Masterfit Buyer's Guide.

As part of an exclusive arrangement with <u>SeniorsSkiing.com</u>, ABB testers include fit and performance criteria for older skiers in their comprehensive evaluations. These include proper stance, comfortable and anatomical fit, good performance, value for cost, and ease of entry and exit.

Each of the following recommended selections, whether a brand's stiffest, highest performing models or it's softer models, meet these criteria.

While ABB evaluates boots in each of five categories (Frontside, All-Mountain Traditional, All-Mountain Walk, All-Mountain Freeride and Backcountry), it's SeniorsSkiing.com recommendations are from the All-Mountain Traditional and All-Mountain Walk categories and presented for Men and Women in Narrow, Medium and Wide foot subcategories.

**All-Mountain Traditional**, the largest boot category, has the broadest number of fit and performance options. All-Mountain Traditional Boots are designed primarily for resort skiing and are equipped with replaceable, grippy soles, improving their walkability. Their liners typically are more padded and insulated. Higher end models use denser materials that transfer energy more effectively. Lower end models offer more creature comforts and warmth.

**All-Mountain Walk** adds a cuff release to the All-Mountain Traditional boot. This provides greater convenience when walking and standing in line. They often have a more insulated and cushioned liner. They tend to be suitable for medium and wider feet.

**Note:** 1) Each entry is linked to the Guide's comprehensive listing.

2) Italicized comments following each boot are excerpted from the guide's longer notes.



#### **Dalbello DS Asolo 130**

"Low-volume feet will love it!"

#### **K2 Recon Pro**

"...perfectly grounded stance and a strong, stable attitude while on edge at any speed, on any snow, through any terrain."

#### All-Mountain Traditional—Medium

#### **Atomic Hawx Prime 130 S**

"Edging movements are crisp and reactive and fine-tuned steering movements are rewarded with immediate ski reaction."

#### **DaleBoot VFF Pro**

"...one of the most sensitive and in-tune with the ground of any boot we've tested."

#### **Full Tilt First Chair 130**

"...the strongest Full Tilt ever."

#### Lange RX 130

"Dual Core plastic injection molding sandwiches a less-dense plastic in feel."

#### **Nordica Speedmachine 130**

 $\hbox{``...} so well-balanced and reactive to the surface underfoot, it practically skis for you."$ 

#### **Tecnica Mach1 MV 130**

"...pairs top tier performance with high levels of comfort..."; "...enables earlier engagement of ski shovel and less fatigue overall."

#### All-Mountain Traditional—Wide

#### Fischer RC4 The Curv One 130

"...love the amount of well-cushioned space for critical parts of the high volume foot: toebox, forefoot, instep, and calf."

#### **Head Edge Lyt 130**

"...wide where needed without losing hold of the thicker foot and leg for performance skiing."

## Lange LX 130 "For skilled skiers with thick feet and legs, the LX 130 is one of the very best on snow." **Rossignol Allspeed 120**

"...dialed stance angles and high torsional and lateral rigidity tips a ski on edge and manages it there through a variety of terrain at virtually every speed...it never failed."

#### Roxa R/Fit 130 IR

"...flex feel is solid and damp."

#### Salomon S/Pro HV 130

"...tactile awareness of the snow surface is very high."

#### All-Mountain Walk—Medium & Wide

#### **Rossignol Alltrack Pro 120**

"Might be easiest of the group to just put on and go skiing. Damp, forgiving and plenty strong...goes everywhere; does everything."

#### **Dalbello Panterra 120**

"...strong performance and new, lighter weight, quickens the pace of turns."

#### K2 B.F.C. 100 Heat

"K2 knows its target customer. The cuff release mechanism is all about strolling parking lots, tailgating, and beers at lunch. Its ease of use and range of motion is fantastic."

#### **Nordica HF 110**

"The rear entry "mono block" buckle has a threaded spin-dial cable adjustment for bringing the higher instep roof down onto the foot. As such it's capable of retaining a variety of different foot types."

#### Roxa R/Fit Hike 110

"This spritely boot skis well in all sorts of challenging conditions."



#### **K2 Anthem Pro**

"Excellent stability in all snow conditions."

#### **Rossignol Pure Elite 120**

"For taller, more aggressive skiers who can get over the top of this boot and uncork its raw power and quickness. The fuzzy, Merino wool liner gives it warmth."

#### All-Mountain Traditional—Medium

#### **Atomic Hawx Prime 115 S W**

"For women with wide forefoot and a bigger calf."

#### Fischer RC4 The Curv 105 W

"...a fine All-Mountain boot for virtually any skier, from intermediate to expert."

#### Lange RX 110 W

"Just enough room to suit the average, medium-volume foot and leg."

#### Nordica Speedmachine 115 W

"Just the right tightness in the heel pocket; roomy for the calf."

#### Tecnica Mach1 MV 105 W

"Improvements over past models increase overall width and accommodate greater custom modifications."

#### All-Mountain Traditional—Wide

#### DaleBoot VFF

"Testers loved the broad adjustment range and the feel of the boots' flexing movements."

#### Head Edge Lvt 100 W

"A wide performer that feels awesome."

#### Roxa R/Fit W 95

"Wide in the toebox and forefoot, tapering to a snug rear foot. The cuff's slightly taller than average height creates a strong lever for edging moves and pressuring the shovel."



### All-Mountain Walk-Medium & Wide

#### **Dalbello Panterra 95 W**

"Surprisingly powerful and stable; easy entry and exit. Hard to find a better option."

#### Rossignol Alltrack Pro 110 W

"Fits like a medium-width glove. No bothersome hotspots or pinch points. Calf fit that suits average bodies and a flex feel that's cushioned enough and progressive. A dream to get on and off."

#### **K2 B.F.C. W 90 Heat**

"Easy entry and exit."

#### Roxa R/Fit Hike W 85

"Strong flex feel. Calf adjustment feature for high volume legs."