

## The Beaufort scale is an imperial measure that relates wind speed to observed conditions at sea or on land

FORCE	DESCRIPTION	SEA STATE	SPECIFICATION ON LAND	KNOTS*	KM/H*	MPH*
0	Calm	Sea like mirror	Smoke rises vertically	<1	<1	<1
1	Very light	Ripples with appearance of scales, no form crests.	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes.	1 - 3	1 - 5	1 - 3
2	Light breeze	Wavelets, small but pronounced. Crests with glassy appearance, but do not break.	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, ordinary wind vane moved by wind.	4 - 6	6 - 11	4 - 7
3	Gentle breeze	Large wavelets, crests begin to break. Glassy looking foam, occasional white horses.	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion, wind extends light flag.	7 - 10	12 - 19	8 - 12
4	Moderate breeze	Small waves becoming longer, frequent white horses.	Wind raises dust and loose paper, small branches move.	11 - 16	20 - 29	13 - 18
5	Fresh breeze	Moderate waves of pronounced long form. Many white horses, some spray.	Small trees in leaf start to sway crested wavelets form on inland waters.	17 - 21	30 - 39	19 - 24
6	Strong breeze	Some large waves, extensive white foam crests, some spray.	Large branches in motion, whistling in telegraph wires, umbrellas used with difficulty.	22 - 27	40 - 50	25 - 31
7	Near gale	Sea heaped up, white foam from breaking waves blowing in streaks with the wind.	Whole trees in motion, inconvenience felt when walking against wind.	28 - 33	51 - 61	32 - 38
8	Gale	Moderately high and long waves. Crests break into spindrift, blowing foam in well marked streaks.	Twigs break from trees, difficult to walk.	34 - 40	62 - 74	39 - 46
9	Strong gale	High waves, dense foam streaks in wind, wave crests topple, tumble and roll over. Spray reduces visibility.	Slight structural damage occurs, chimney pots and slates removed.	41 - 47	75 - 87	47 - 54
10	Storm	Very high waves with long overhanging crests. Dense blowing foam, sea surface appears white. Heavy tumbling of sea, shock-like, poor visibility.	Trees uprooted, considerable structural damage occurs.	48 - 55	88 - 101	55 - 63
11	Violent storm	Exceptionally high waves, sometimes concealing small and medium sized ships. Sea completely covered with long white patches of foam. Edges of wave crests blown into froth. Poor visibility.	Widespread damage	56 - 63	102 - 117	64 - 73
12	Hurricane	Air filled with foam and spray, sea white with driving spray, poor visibility.	Widespread damage	>64	>119	>74

\* Equivalent speed (10m above ground)

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