

Beaufort Wind Scale

Beaufort Number or Force	Wind Speed			Description	Effects Land / Sea
	Mph	km/hr	knots		
0	<1	<1	<1	Calm	Still, calm air, smoke will rise vertically. Water is mirror-like.
1	1-3 Mph	1-5 kph	1-3 knots	Light Air	Rising smoke drifts, wind vane is inactive. Small ripples appear on water surface.
2	4-7 Mph	6-11 kph	4-6 knots	Light Breeze	Leaves rustle, can feel wind on your face, wind vanes begin to move. Small wavelets develop, crests are glassy.
3	8-12 Mph	12-19 kph	7-10 knots	Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs move, light weight flags extend. Large wavelets, crests start to break, some whitecaps.
4	13-18 Mph	20-28 kph	11-16 knots	Moderate Breeze	Small branches move, raises dust, leaves and paper. Small waves develop, becoming longer, whitecaps.
5	19-24 Mph	29-38 kph	17-21 knots	Fresh Breeze	Small trees sway. White crested wavelets (whitecaps) form, some spray.
6	25-31 Mph	39-49 kph	22-27 knots	Strong Breeze	Large tree branches move, telephone wires begin to "whistle", umbrellas are difficult to keep under control. Larger waves form, whitecaps prevalent, spray.
7	32-38 Mph	50-61 kph	28-33 knots	Moderate or Near Gale	Large trees sway, becoming difficult to walk. Larger waves develop, white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown.
8	39-46 Mph	62-74 kph	34-40 knots	Gale or Fresh Gale	Twigs and small branches are broken from trees, walking is difficult. Moderately large waves with blown foam.
9	47-54 Mph	75-88 kph	41-47 knots	Strong Gale	Slight damage occurs to buildings, shingles are blown off of roofs. High waves (6 meters), rolling seas, dense foam, Blowing spray reduces visibility.
10	55-63 Mph	89-102 kph	48-55 knots	Whole Gale or Storm	Trees are broken or uprooted, building damage is considerable. Large waves (6-9 meters), overhanging crests, sea becomes white with foam, heavy rolling, reduced visibility.
11	64-72 Mph	103-117 kph	56-63 knots	Violent Storm	Extensive widespread damage. Large waves (9-14 meters), white foam, visibility further reduced.
12	73+ Mph	118+ kph	64+ knots	Hurricane	Extreme destruction, devastation. Large waves over 14 meters, air filled with foam, sea white with foam and driving spray, little visibility.