











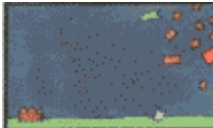


# Beaufort Wind Scale

*Devised by British Rear-Admiral, Sir Francis Beaufort in 1805  
based on observations of the effects of the wind*

Beaufort number (force)	Wind Speed		Wave height (feet)	Description	Effects observed on the sea	Effects observed on land
	knots	mph				
0	under 1	under 1	-	<b>Calm</b>	Sea is like a mirror	 Smoke goes straight up.
1	1 - 3	1 - 3	0.25	<b>Light air</b>	Ripples with appearance of scales; no foam crests	 Smoke drifts in direction of wind.
2	4 - 6	4 - 7	0.5 - 1	<b>Light breeze</b>	Small wavelets; crests of glassy appearance, not breaking	 Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, flags stir, weather vanes turn.
3	7 - 10	8 - 12	2 - 3	<b>Gentle breeze</b>	Large wavelets; crests begin to break; scattered whitecaps	 Leaves and twigs move constantly, light flags blow out.
4	11-16	13-18	3½ - 5	<b>Moderate breeze</b>	Small waves, becoming longer; numerous whitecaps	 Dust, loose papers, and small branches move; flags flap.
5	17-21	19-24	6 - 8	<b>Fresh breeze</b>	Moderate waves, taking longer form; many whitecaps; some spray	 Small trees in leaf begin to sway; flags ripple.

6	22-27	25-31	9½-13	<b>Strong breeze</b>	Larger waves forming; whitecaps everywhere; more spray	 <p>Large branches in motion; flags beat' umbrellas turn inside out.</p>
7	28-33	32-38	13½-19	<b>Near gale</b>	Sea heaps up; white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown in streaks	 <p>Whole trees in motion; flags are extended.</p>
8	34-40	39-46	18-25	<b>Gale</b>	Moderately high waves of greater length; edges of crests begin to break into spindrift; foam is blown in well-marked streaks	 <p>Twigs break off trees; walking is hard.</p>
9	41-47	47-54	23-32	<b>Strong gale</b>	High waves; sea begins to roll; dense streaks of foam; spray may begin to reduce visibility	 <p>Slight damage to houses; TV antennas may blow off; awnings rip.</p>
10	48-55	55-63	29-41	<b>Storm</b>	Very high waves with overhanging crests; sea takes white appearance as foam is blown in very dense streaks; rolling is heavy and visibility is reduced	 <p>Trees uprooted; much damage to houses.</p>
11	56-63	64-72	37-52	<b>Violent storm</b>	Exceptionally high waves; sea covered with white foam patches; visibility further reduced	 <p>Widespread damage</p>
12	64 and over	73 and over	45 and over	<b>Hurricane</b>	Air filled with foam; sea completely white with driving spray; visibility greatly reduced	 <p>Excessive damage</p>