



Predominating clouds in a formation determine code number and classification. The caption forecasts appearing below are based on surface wind directions.

THIS CHART HAS BEEN PREPARED TO AID IN THE INTERPRETATION OF CLOUD REPORTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL FIGURE CODE

Cloud Chart

Below the equator the prevailing winds are generally opposite the winds above the equator. With this adjustment made forecasts will be as noted below.

	<p>M1—CIRRUS flexus Ice clouds. Good weather if winds from NW to N. Precipitation likely within 20 to 30 hours if winds steady from NE E to S.</p>
	<p>M2—CIRRUS opacus Ice clouds. Good weather if winds from NW to N. Precipitation likely within 20 to 30 hours if winds steady from NE E to S.</p>
	<p>M4—CIRRUS undulosus spreading over sky High ice clouds. Good weather if winds from NW to N. Precipitation likely within 20 to 30 hours if winds steady from NE E to S.</p>
	<p>M6—CIRRUS above 45° High ice clouds. Good weather if winds from NW to N. Precipitation likely within 20 to 30 hours if winds steady from NE E to S.</p>
	<p>M6—CIRROSTRATUS evening sky Precipitation likely within 15 to 25 hours if winds steady from NE E to S, or sooner if winds SE to S. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M6—CIRROSTRATUS evening sky Ice clouds cover sky. Precipitation likely within 15 to 25 hours if winds steady from NE E to S. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M7—CIRROCUMULUS Ice clouds. Precipitation likely 15-20 hours if wind NE to S. Early summer A.M. often afternoon thunder showers. Other winds overcast.</p>
	<p>M8—CIRROCUMULUS Ice clouds. Precipitation likely 15-20 hours if wind NE to S. Early summer A.M. often afternoon thunder showers. Other winds overcast.</p>
	<p>M9—CIRROCUMULUS Ice clouds. Precipitation likely 15-20 hours if wind NE to S. Early summer A.M. often afternoon thunder showers. Other winds overcast.</p>
	<p>M7—CIRROSTRATUS with halo Precipitation likely within 15 to 24 hours if wind steady from NE to S. Prismatic effect of sun or moon through ice crystals cause halo.</p>
	<p>M1—ALTOSTRATUS translucidus Precipitation likely within 10 to 20 hours if wind steady from NE to S. Sun appears behind frosted glass. Other winds overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M3—ALTOSTRATUS translucidus Water and ice clouds. Some precipitation likely within 15 to 20 hours if wind is steady. NE to S. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M3—ALTOSTRATUS undulatus Precipitation likely within 15 to 20 hours if wind is steady. NE to S. Other winds bring overcast sky. Mostly threatens precipitation.</p>
	<p>M3—ALTOSTRATUS undulatus Water and ice clouds. Some precipitation likely within 15 to 20 hours if wind steady from NE to S. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M2—ALTOSTRATUS translucidus Precipitation likely in 10 to 15 hours if winds steady. NE to S. Sun appears to be behind frosted glass. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M1—ALTOSTRATUS translucidus Precipitation likely in 10 to 15 hours if winds steady. NE to S. Sun appears to be behind frosted glass. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>L1—CUMULUS humilis Fair weather clouds if they show no vertical development. Can build up and develop into cumulus congestus or cumulonimbus clouds.</p>
	<p>L3—CUMULUS with vertical growth Fair weather clouds building up vertically often indicate cumulus congestus and cumulonimbus which bring afternoon showers.</p>
	<p>L3—CUMULUS congestus If clouds form from SW to NW precipitation with gusty winds and thunderstorms or only wind squalls are likely within 5 to 10 hours.</p>
	<p>L3—CUMULUS congestus Cloud forming distocumulus origin. Usually brings showers, S to 10. Heavy gusty winds, thunder showers, wind squalls.</p>
	<p>L3—CUMULUS congestus Cold front from NW precipitation with gusty winds and thunderstorms. Heavy wind squalls are likely within 5 to 10 hours.</p>
	<p>L8—CUMULONIMBUS Precipitation likely and soon coming usually from SW W to N. Distant clouds often show an anvil-shaped ciriform cap.</p>
	<p>L8—CUMULONIMBUS capillatus Precipitation likely and soon coming usually from SW W to N. Distant clouds often show an anvil-shaped ciriform cap.</p>
	<p>L3—CUMULONIMBUS calvus Precipitation likely and soon coming usually from SW W to N. Distant clouds often show an anvil-shaped ciriform cap.</p>
	<p>L5—STRATOCUMULUS stratiformis Immediate thickener of bad weather from a squall to heavy precipitation. If at head of cold front, gusty winds or thunder showers.</p>
	<p>L5—STRATOCUMULUS opacus Immediate thickener of bad weather from a squall to heavy precipitation. If at head of cold front, gusty winds or thunder showers.</p>
	<p>L6—STRATUS (new tower fading in cloud) Winds from NE to S may bring heavy precipitation. Other winds bring only light drizzle or an overcast sky.</p>
	<p>L9—CUMULONIMBUS nimbus Seldom seen low to middle clouds. Associated with severe wind squalls, hail, heavy precipitation, tornadoes and thunderstorms.</p>
	<p>L9—NIMBOSTRATUS Rain or snow clouds. Precipitation of long duration if winds NE to S, or shorter duration if winds are from SW W to N.</p>
	<p>L9—NIMBOSTRATUS Rain or snow clouds. Precipitation of long duration if winds NE to S, or shorter duration if winds are from SW W to N.</p>
	<p>L3—CUMULUS congestus with frons strabus Fair weather clouds broken up by strong winds. No precipitation unless winds steady NE to S, then cumulus fractus of bad weather.</p>
	<p>L1—CUMULUS fractus Fair weather clouds broken up by strong winds. No precipitation unless winds steady NE to S, then cumulus fractus of bad weather.</p>
	<p>L5—STRATOCUMULUS at sunset Low water clouds of dark indiar red color. Precipitation in 12 to 20 hours if winds from NE to S. Other winds bring overcast sky.</p>
	<p>M4-M1—ALTOSTRATUS and CIRRUS at sunset Middle water to ice clouds with brilliant white background. Precipitation likely within 20 to 24 hours if winds are from NE E to S.</p>
	<p>L5—STRATOCUMULUS at sunset Low to middle water clouds with gold, pink, amber, lavender or rosy background. No precipitation likely within 20 to 24 hours.</p>

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