

Note that wave heights in the scale are for conditions in the [open ocean](#), not along shore.

Beaufort number	Wind speed				Description	Wave height		Sea conditions	Land conditions
	knots	km/h	mph	m/s		m	ft		
0	0	0	0	0 - 0.2	Calm	0	0	Flat.	Calm. Smoke rises vertically.
1	1 - 3	1 - 6	1 - 3	0.3 - 1.5	Light Air	0.1	0.33	Ripples without crests.	Wind motion visible in smoke.
2	4 - 6	7 - 11	4 - 7	1.6 - 3.3	Light Breeze	0.2	0.66	Small wavelets. Crests of glassy appearance, not breaking	Wind felt on exposed skin. Leaves rustle.
3	7 - 10	12 - 19	8 - 12	3.4 - 5.4	Gentle Breeze	0.6	2	Large wavelets. Crests begin to break; scattered whitecaps	Leaves and smaller twigs in constant motion.
4	11 - 16	20 - 29	13 - 18	5.5 - 7.9	Moderate Breeze	1	3.3	Small waves.	Dust and loose paper raised. Small branches begin to move.
5	17 - 21	30 - 39	19 - 24	8.0 - 10.7	Fresh Breeze	2	6.6	Moderate (1.2 m) longer waves. Some foam and spray.	Smaller trees sway.
6	22 - 27	40 - 50	25 - 31	10.8 - 13.8	Strong Breeze	3	9.9	Large waves with foam crests and some spray.	Large branches in motion. Whistling heard in overhead wires. Umbrella use becomes difficult.
7	28 - 33	51 - 62	32 - 38	13.9 - 17.1	Near Gale	4	13.1	Sea heaps up and foam begins to streak.	Whole trees in motion. Effort to walk against the wind.

8	34 - 40	63 - 75	39 - 46	17.2 - 20.7	Gale	5.5	18	Moderately high waves with breaking crests forming spindrift. Streaks of foam.	Twigs broken from trees. Cars veer on road.
9	41 - 47	76 - 87	47-54	20.8 - 24.4	Strong Gale	7	23	High waves (2.75 m) with dense foam. Wave crests start to roll over. Considerable spray.	Light structure damage.
10	48 - 55	88 - 102	55-63	24.5 - 28.4	Storm	9	29.5	Very high waves. The sea surface is white and there is considerable tumbling. Visibility is reduced.	Trees uprooted. Considerable structural damage.
11	56 - 63	103 - 117	64 - 72	28.5 - 32.6	Violent Storm	11.5	37.7	Exceptionally high waves.	Widespread structural damage.
12	>63	>117	>72	>32.7	Hurricane	14+	46+	Huge waves. Air filled with foam and spray. Sea completely white with driving spray. Visibility very greatly reduced.	Massive and widespread damage to structures.

