Beaufort Scale

ESTIMATION OF WIND SPEED

Scale	Conditions on Land		Wind Speed
D Calm	Smoke rises straight up.		1 km/h or less 1 knot or less
1 Light Air	Smoke drift indicates wind direction. Wind vanes do not move.		1 – 5 km/h 1 – 3 knots
2 Light Breeze	Wind felt on face. Leaves rustle. Wind vanes begin to move.		6 – 11 km/h 4 – 6 knots
3 Gentle Breeze	Light flags extended. Leaves and small twigs in constant motion.		12 – 19 km/h 7 – 10 knots
4 Moderate Breeze	Dust, leaves and loose papers raised up. Small branches move.		20 – 29 km/h 11 – 16 knots
5 Fresh Breeze	Crested wavelets form on inland waters. Small trees begin to sway.		30 – 39 km/h 17 – 21 knots
6 Strong Breeze	Umbrellas are difficult to control. Whistling heard in telegraph wires. Large branches move.		40 – 50 km/h 22 – 27 knots
7 Near Gale	Inconvenience felt when walking against the wind. Whole trees in motion.		51 – 61 km/h 28 – 33 knots
8 Gale	Difficult to walk against wind. Twigs and small branches blown off trees.		62 – 74 km/h 34 – 40 knots
9 Strong Gale	Slight structural damage may occur (slates blown off roofs).		75 – 87 km/h 41 – 47 knots
10 Storm	Structural damages likely. Trees uprooted.		88 – 101 km/h 48 – 55 knots
11 Violent Storm	Widespread damage to structures.		102 – 117 km/h 56 – 63 knots
12 Hurricane	Severe structural damage to buildings. Widespread devastation.		118 km/h or more 64 knots or more

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