

## **Cloud Types**

	Characteristics	Altitude
Cumulonimbus	<ul><li>Tall, towering clouds, may form an anvil shape</li><li>Clouds of this type are associated with thunderstorms and heavy rain</li></ul>	500 to 1,800 meters
Cumulus	<ul><li>Dense, fluffy clouds</li><li>Form in fair weather</li></ul>	500 to 1,800 meters
Nimbostratus	<ul><li>Thick layer of dark clouds</li><li>Usually produce steady, hard precipitation</li></ul>	Below 2,000 meters
Stratus	<ul><li>Low layer of gray clouds; may cover the whole sky.</li><li>Usually produce light rain</li></ul>	Below 2,000 meters
Stratocumulus	<ul><li>Soft, gray clouds may form one continuous layer</li><li>May produce light rain or snow</li></ul>	Below 2,000 meters
Altostratus	<ul><li>Gray clouds, may form in ripples</li><li>May produce continuous light rain</li></ul>	2,000 to 6,000 meters
Altocumulus	<ul><li>Light gray clouds that form in patches or rolls</li><li>May indicate upcoming storm</li></ul>	2,000 to 6,000 meters
Cirrostratus	<ul> <li>Veil-like clouds, have been known to form halos around the moon and sun</li> <li>Associated with fair weather. May precede an upcoming storm</li> </ul>	Above 6,000 meters
Cirrocumulus	<ul><li>White, thin clouds that look like ripples or waves</li><li>Form in fair weather but may precede an upcoming storm</li></ul>	Above 6,000 miles
Cirrus	<ul><li>Thin, feathery clouds of ice cystals</li><li>Form in fair weather but may precede an upcoming storm</li></ul>	Above 6,000 miles

© 2018, Flinn Scientific, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Reproduction permission is granted from Flinn Scientific, Inc. Batavia, Illinois, U.S.A. No part of this material may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including, but not limited to photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from Flinn Scientific, Inc.