

# Beaufort Wind Scale

The Beaufort Wind Scale is a method of measuring the wind without using any equipment. It was thought up by Admiral Beaufort who worked in the British Navy and learnt that you could tell a lot about the wind speed by just looking at things around you.

Go outside and use Admiral Beaufort's wind scale yourself!

Scale	Description	Observation	wind speed (mph)
0	Calm	Smoke rises vertically.	<1
1	Light air	Direction of wind shown by smoke but not by wind vanes.	1-5
2	Light breeze	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, ordinary vanes moved by wind.	6-11
3	Gentle breeze	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion, wind opens light flag.	12-19
4	Moderate breeze	Raises dust and loose paper, small branches are moved.	20-28
5	Fresh breeze	Small trees begin to sway, crested wavelets are made on inland waters.	29-38
6	Strong breeze	Large branches in motion, whistling in telegraph wires, umbrellas used with difficulty	39-49
7	Near gale	Whole trees in motion, inconvenience walking against the wind.	50-61
8	Gale	Breaks twigs off trees, generally impedes progress.	62-74
9	Strong gale	Slight structural damage occurs (chimney pots and slates removed)	75-88
10	Storm	Seldom experienced inland, trees uprooted, considerable structural damage occurs.	89-102
11	Violent storm	Very rarely experienced, accompanied by widespread damage.	103-117
12	Hurricane		117+