

# Beaufort Scale

1 mph = 0.868 Knots

Beaufort Force	Description	Mean Speed (mph)	Lower Limit (mph)	Upper Limit (mph)	Specification on Land	As Used at Sea		Height of Waves (ft)
						State of Sea	Specification at Sea	
0	<b>Calm</b>	0	0	1	Calm; smoke rises vertically	<b>Calm</b>	Sea like a mirror	0
1	<b>Light Air</b>	2	1	3	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes	<b>Calm</b>	Ripples with the appearance of scales are formed, without foam crests	0.3
2	<b>Light Breeze</b>	5	4	7	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle	<b>Smooth</b>	Small wavelets, still short but more pronounced; crests have a glassy appearance and do not break	0.6
3	<b>Gentle Breeze</b>	10	8	12	Leaves & small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag	<b>Smooth</b>	Large wavelets; crests begin to break; foam is of glassy appearance; scattered white horses	2
4	<b>Moderate Breeze</b>	15	13	18	Dust & loose paper raised; small branches moved	<b>Slight</b>	Small waves; becoming longer; fairly frequent white horses	3
5	<b>Fresh Breeze</b>	21	18	24	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on water	<b>Moderate</b>	Moderate waves with more pronounced long form; many white horses; chance of some spray	7
6	<b>Strong Breeze</b>	27	24	31	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires	<b>Rough</b>	Large waves begin to form; white foam crests are more extensive everywhere; probably some spray	10
7	<b>Near Gale</b>	35	31	38	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt when walking against the wind	<b>Very Rough</b>	Sea heaps up and white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown in streaks along the direction of the wind	13
8	<b>Gale</b>	42	39	46	Twigs break off trees; difficult to walk against wind	<b>High</b>	Moderately high waves of greater length; edges of crests begin to break into spindrift; foam blown along the direction of the wind	18
9	<b>Strong Gale</b>	50	47	54	Slight structural damage to chimney pots, aerials & roof slates	<b>Very High</b>	High waves; dense streaks of foam along the direction of the wind; crests of waves topple, tumble and roll over; spray may affect visibility	23
10	<b>Storm</b>	59	55	63	Trees uprooted; considerable structural damage	<b>Very High</b>	Very high waves with long overhanging crests; foam patches blown in dense white streaks; heavy "tumbling" of sea; visibility affected	30
11	<b>Violent Storm</b>	68	64	72	Widespread structural damage	<b>Phenomenal</b>	Exceptionally high waves (ships sometimes lost to view behind the waves); everywhere the edges of the wave crests are blown into froth	38
12	<b>Hurricane</b>	-	73	-	Devastation	<b>Phenomenal</b>	Air is filled with foam and spray; sea completely white with driving spray; visibility very seriously affected	47