



November 2023

Table of medium wind speeds according to Beaufort Wind Scale

Force(Bf)	Description	Speed kt	Speed m/s	Speed km/h	Specifications for use at sea	Specifications for use at land
0	Calm	< 1	0-0,2	< 1	Sea like a mirror.	Calm. Smoke rises vertically
1	Light Air	1-3	0,3-1,5	1-5	Ripples like scales, no foam crests	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift.
2	Light Breeze	4-6	1,6-3,3	6-11	Small, short wavelets.	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, wind vanes moving.
3	Gentle Breeze	7-10	3,4-5,4	12-19	Larger wavelets, crests begin to break. Foam appears on crests.	Flags starting to move. Leaves and twigs in constant motion.
4	Moderate Breeze	11-16	5,5-7,9	20-28	Small waves, frequent white horses.	Rises dust and loose paper, small branches are moved.
5	Fresh Breeze	17-21	8,0-10,7	29-38	Moderate waves, many white horses are formed.	Small trees in leaf begin to sway, crowns of all trees move.
6	Strong Breeze	22-27	10,8-13,8	39-49	Large waves, white foam crests everywhere.	Large branches in motion, whistling sound from wires.
7	Near Gale	28-33	13,9-17,1	50-61	Breaking waves and foam in streaks.	Whole trees in motion, difficult to walk against the wind.
8	Gale	34-40	17,2-20,7	62-74	High waves, edges of crests break in spin drift. Foam blown in streaks.	Breaks twigs of trees. Walking against the wind gets impaired massively.
9	Severe Gale	41-47	20,8-24,4	75-88	High waves, dense foam. Crests roll over. Spray may affect visibility.	Slight structural damage to houses (chimneys, slates)
10	Storm	48-55	24,5-28,4	89-102	Very high waves with long crests. Surface takes on white appearance. Visibility affected.	Seldom seen inland. Trees uprooted, considerable structural damage to buildings.
11	Violent Storm	56-63	28,5-32,6	103-117	Exceptionally high waves, sea completely covered with white foam, visibility greatly reduced.	Very rarely experienced, accompanied by wide spread damage to structures and trees.
12	Hurricane	>= 64	>=32,7	>= 118	Air filled with foam and spray. Sea completely white. Visibility very seriously affected.	Very rarely experienced over land. Massive damage and destruction.

1 kt = 1.852 km/h

The average wind speeds correspond to the standardized height of 10 meters over flat, open land.

Source : Manuel des codes - Codes internationaux, volume I.1, Annexe II du Règlement technique de l'OMM: Partie A – Codes alphanumériques. Page 463.