



straight, or curved filaments, with wispy edges.







thickening as a whole.







halo around the sun or moon is present.



the whole sky, sometimes a covering the whole sky nor increasing in coverage.



ripples or small puffs, which may be accompanied by some Cirrus/Cirrostratus.



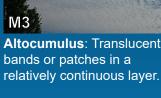


strands or hooks.

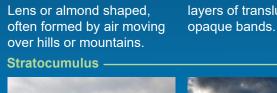
Altostratus: Full or nearly full sky cover that is gray, shapeless and translucent; produces no halo.



Altostratus: Thick opaque Altocumulus: Translucent coverage, no precipitation, bands or patches in a or **Nimbostratus**: during relatively continuous layer. precipitation or virga.







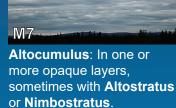


layers of translucent or





Altocumulus Lenticularis: Altocumulus: One or more Altocumulus: A result of the Altocumulus: In one or spreading tops of **Cumulus** more opaque layers, or sides of Cumulonimbus. sometimes with Altostratus small Cumulus with wispy



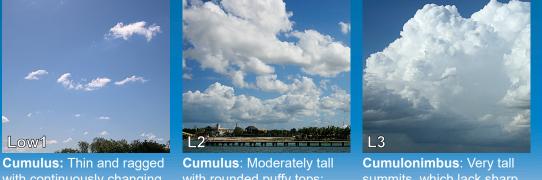
which can be similar to trails of virga.



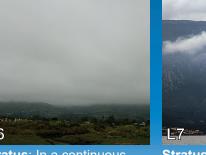


veather by daytime heating. Stratocumulus (L4).









Stratus- or Cumulus-Stratus: In a continuous



Cumulus/Stratocumulus: Cumulonimbus: Very tall



Cumulonimbus

www.noaa.gov/education

NOAA Cloudwise

Stratus

the _ deligible

There are ten basic cloud types arranged in three divisions based on the altitude at which they form. Low level clouds are Cumulus, Cumulonimbus, Stratus, and Stratocumulus. Middle level clouds are Altocumulus, Altostratus and Nimbostratus. High level clouds are Cirrus, Cirrocumulus and Cirrostratus. Precipitation primarily occurs from Cumulus, Cumulonimbus and Nimbostratus.

These ten clouds are further divided into 27 classifications. Many of these classifications represent the same basic cloud type (or combinations of clouds) but in various stages of development, opacity, or sky cover.

Learn more about clouds at www.weather.gov/jetstream

www.weather.gov

Cumulus

Sky cover

The percent of sky covered by clouds. Clouds near the horizon appear to be lower, more numerous and closer together.



0%

1 - 25%



26 - 50%



51 - 99%

Overcast

100%



near thunderstorms.



pocket-like clouds sinking which lifts from the surface lowered, rain-free base of into drier air and often seen and becomes **Stratus** or dissipates with heat from the sun.



thunderstorm in area of strongest updraft, under which a tornado may form.



Shelf Cloud: Forms in a or thunderstorm.



Asperitas: Long waves that **Virga**: Precipitation that gust front from a squall line ripple through the base of the evaporates before reaching cloud near the dry/moist air the surface. boundary of a thunderstorm.









