






# Beaufort Scale for Land

Force / Warning	Short Description	Specifications for use on Land	Mean wind speed* at 10m above ground level		
			Knots	mph	km/h
0	Calm	Smoke rises vertically	< 1	< 1	< 1
1		Direction of wind shown by smoke but not by wind vanes	1–3	1–3	1–5
2	Light breeze	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, ordinary vanes moved by wind	4–6	4–7	6–11
3	Gentle breeze	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion, wind extends light flag	7–10	8–12	12–19
4	Moderate breeze	Raises dust and loose paper, small branches are moved	11–16	13–18	20–28
5	Fresh breeze	Small trees in leaf begin to sway, crested wavelets form on inland waters	17–21	19–24	29–38
6	Strong breeze	Large branches in motion, whistling heard in electricity wires; umbrellas used with difficulty	22–27	25–31	39–49
7 	Near gale	Branches, debris on roads, Loose objects displaced e.g. garden chairs/bins, Hazardous driving conditions for vulnerable road users, minor disruption to transport services (air, ferry)	28–33	32–38	50–61
8 	Gale	Small branches, debris on roads, Minor damage to buildings, Damage to power lines, Power outages, Difficult to walk outdoors, Hazardous driving conditions, Delays or disruption to some transport services (air, ferry), Outdoor events cancelled	34–40	39–46	62–74
9 	Strong gale	Branches break off, Several fallen trees, Damage to buildings, Damage to power lines, Widespread power outages, Dangerous conditions, possible threat to life, Transport services cancelled (air, rail, ferry, bus), Outdoor events cancelled, Some routes impassable	41–47	47–54	75–88
10 	Storm	Seldom experienced inland, Several fallen trees, Damage to buildings, Damage to power lines, Widespread power outages, Danger to life, unsafe to be outdoors, Transport services cancelled (air, rail, ferry, bus), Events cancelled, Several routes impassable	48–55	55–63	89–102
11 	Violent storm	Rare inland, Widespread fallen trees, Severe building damage, Widespread infrastructure damage, Widespread power outages, Danger to life, unsafe to be outdoors, Isolation of communities, Transport services cancelled (air, rail, ferry, bus), Only essential services operating, Many routes impassable	56–63	64–72	103–117
12 	Hurricane	Very rare inland, Life threatening conditions, Significant and widespread infrastructure, Widespread and severe building damage, Widespread fallen trees, Isolation of communities, Disruption to essential services, Many routes impassable, Transport services cancelled (air, rail, ferry, bus)	64>	73>	117>