	Description	Precipitation	Composition	Other
Cb	Often the horizontal and vertical dimensions are so great the characteristic shape of the cloud as a whole can only be seen when observed from a distance.	Large rain drops Snow Hailstones Snow pellets	Water droplets Supercooled water droplets Upper portions - ice crystals	
Cu	May vary greatly in vertical extent from a flattened appearance to the appearance of huge sprouting cauliflower.	Rain-showers Snow Snow pellets	Water droplets Ice crystals may form where T ≤ - 10°C	
St	Smooth uniform layer	Drizzle Snow grains	Small water droplets	
Sc	The size, thickness and shape of the elements vary over a wide range. Sc varies considerably in its transparency.	Rain Snow Ice pellets	Water droplets	
Ac	Altocumulus sheets often occur simultaneously at two or more levels and vary considerably in transparency.	None	Super-cooled water droplets	Corona Irisation
Ns	Smooth uniform layer	Rain Snow Ice pellets	Water droplets Supercooled water droplets Ice crystals	
As	Smooth uniform layer	Rain Snow Ice pellets	Water droplets Super-cooled water droplets	
Cs	Fibrous veil with thin striations or may resemble a nebulous veil. Edge sometimes sharply defined, but more often frayed with cirrus.	None	Ice crystals	Halo
Cc	Consist of small tufts, always thin enough to reveal sun or moon.	None	Ice crystals	Corona Irisations
Ci	When in patches may be thick enough to obscure sun. Always white when sun is sufficiently high in the sky.	None	Ice crystals	