

Accessory clouds and mother clouds

Accessory clouds

Clouds may sometimes be accompanied by other usually smaller clouds, known as accessory clouds, which are separate from the main cloud body or partly merged with it.





<p>Pileus Cumulus Cumulonimbus</p>	<p>An accessory cloud of small horizontal extent, in the form of a cap or hood above the top or attached to the upper part of a cumuliform cloud which often penetrates it.</p>	
<p>Velum Cumulus Cumulonimbus</p>	<p>An accessory cloud veil of great horizontal extent, close above or attached to the upper part of one or several cumuliform clouds which often pierce it.</p>	
<p>Pannus Altostratus Nimbostratus Cumulus Cumulonimbus</p>	<p>Ragged shreds, sometimes constituting a layer, situated below other cloud and sometimes attached to it.</p>	
<p>Flumen Cumulonimbus</p>	<p>Bands of low clouds associated with a supercell severe convective storm, arranged parallel to the low-level winds and moving into or towards the supercell. They form an inflow band into a supercell storm along the pseudo-warm front. The cloud elements move towards the updraft into the supercell, the base being at about the same height as the updraft base. Note that flumen are not attached to the murus wall cloud and the cloud base is higher than the wall cloud.</p>	 <p>One particular type of inflow band cloud is the so-called 'Beaver's tail'. This is distinguished by a relatively broad, flat appearance suggestive of a beaver's tail.</p>

Table of accessory clouds and the genera with which they most frequently occur

(Section 2.2.2.5.5)

Table 10. Accessory clouds and the genera with which they most frequently occur

<i>Genera</i> <i>Accessory clouds</i>	<i>Ci</i>	<i>Cc</i>	<i>Cs</i>	<i>Ac</i>	<i>As</i>	<i>Ns</i>	<i>Sc</i>	<i>St</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Cb</i>
pileus (pil)									•	•
velum (vel)									•	•
pannus (pan)					•	•			•	•
flumen (flm)										•

Mother clouds

Clouds may develop in either of two ways:

- They may form in clear air
- They may form or grow from other clouds, called mother clouds

The development of clouds from mother clouds may arise from either of the two following process:

- A part of a cloud may develop and extensions may form. These extensions may become clouds of a genus different from that of the mother cloud. They may or may not be attached to the mother cloud. They are then given the name on the new genus. This is followed by the name of the genus of the mother cloud with the suffix “genitus”, e.g. Stratocumulus cumulogenitus.
- The whole or a large part of a cloud is completely transformed internally. The cloud therefore changes from one to another. The new cloud is then given the name of the appropriate genus. This is followed by the name of the genus of the mother-cloud with the suffix “mutatus”. e.g. Stratus stratocumulomutatus.