











Cloud species





Most of the genera are subdivided into species.

This subdivision is **based on the shape of the clouds and their internal structure.**

A cloud observed in the sky belonging to a certain genus, may bear the name of one species only. This means that species are mutually exclusive, but on the other hand, certain species may be common to several genera.

<p>Fibratus</p> <p>Cirrus</p> <p>Cirrostratus</p>	<p>Detached clouds on a thin cloud veil, consisting of nearly straight or more or less irregularly curved filaments which do not terminate in hooks or tufts. Applies mainly to.</p>	
<p>Uncinus</p> <p>Cirrus</p>	<p>Cirrus often shaped like a comma, terminating in a hook, or in a tuft, the upper part of which is not in the form of a rounded protuberance.</p>	
<p>Spissatus</p> <p>Cirrus</p>	<p>Cirrus of sufficient optical thickness to appear greyish when viewed towards the sun.</p>	
<p>Castellanus</p> <p>Cirrus</p> <p>Cirrocumulus</p> <p>Alto cumulus</p> <p>Stratocumulus</p>	<p>Clouds which present, in at least some portion of their upper part, cumuliform protuberances in the form of turrets which generally give the clouds a crenellated appearance. The turrets, some of which are taller than they are wide, are connected by a common base and seem to be arranged in lines. This shape is especially evident when clouds are seen from the side.</p>	

<p>Floccus</p>	<p>A species in which each cloud unit is a small tuft with a cumuliform appearance, the lower part of which is more or less ragged and often accompanied by virga.</p>	
<p>Stratiformis Altocumulus, Stratocumulus Occasionally to Cirrocumulus.</p>	<p>Clouds spread out in an extensive horizontal sheet or layer.</p>	
<p>Nebulosus Stratus Cirrostratus</p>	<p>A cloud like a nebulous veil or layer, showing no distinct details.</p>	
<p>Lenticularis Cirrocumulus Altocumulus Stratocumulus</p>	<p>Clouds having the shape of lenses or almonds, often very elongated and usually with well-defined outlines; they occasionally show irisation. Such clouds appear most often in cloud formations of orographic origin, but may also occur in regions without marked orography.</p>	
<p>Volutus Stratocumulus Rrarely Altocumulus</p>	<p>A long, typically low, horizontal, detached, tube-shaped cloud mass, often appearing to roll slowly about a horizontal axis. The <u>roll cloud</u>, volutus, is a soliton, not attached to other clouds and is an example of an undular bore.</p>	
<p>Fractus Stratus Cumulus</p>	<p>Clouds in the form of irregular shreds, which have a clearly ragged appearance.</p>	

<p>Humilis</p> <p>Cumulus</p>	<p>Cumulus clouds of only a slight vertical extent; they generally appear flattened.</p>	
<p>Mediocris</p> <p>Cumulus</p>	<p>Cumulus clouds of moderate vertical extent, the tops of which show fairly small protuberances.</p>	
<p>Congestus</p> <p>Cumulus</p>	<p>Cumulus clouds which are markedly sprouting and are often of great vertical extent; their bulging upper part frequently resembles a cauliflower.</p>	
<p>Calvus</p> <p>Cumulonimbus</p>	<p>Cumulonimbus in which at least some protuberances of the upper part are beginning to lose their cumuliform outlines, but no cirriform parts can be distinguished. Protuberances and sproutings tend to form a whitish mass, with more or less vertical striations.</p>	
<p>Capillatus</p> <p>Cumulonimbus</p>	<p>Cumulonimbus characterized by the presence, mostly in its upper portion, of distinct cirriform parts of clearly fibrous or striated structure, frequently having the form of an anvil, a plume or a vast, more or less disorderly mass of hair. Usually accompanied by a shower or by a thunderstorm, often with squalls and sometimes with hail; frequently produces very well-defined virga.</p>	