

Weather

Weather Tips

These tips are provided to help you observe the weather. These are generalizations good for large bodies of water and temperate climates. Local conditions, such as the location of land, may cause some variations, especially in local wind direction, to the observations and predictions.

- Avoid a storm's centre by tracking its movement in relation to your course. Put your back to the wind and point to the left, that's where the storm centre lies.
- If you see storm clouds anywhere to the west or north of your position in a temperate climate, you are in the danger zone and may be in its path.
- Thunder is nearby if it crashes and bangs, far off if it rumbles like a timpani. Thunder travels at about one mile for every five seconds or, one kilometre for every three seconds.
- If the wind changes in a clockwise direction, fair weather is on the way. If the wind changes in a counterclockwise direction, fair weather is leaving.
- Doubling of wind speed quadruples its strength. Strength causes waves.
- High clouds are associated with weather about six hours away. Wispy and white indicate fair weather.
- Low clouds are from close-by weather systems. Dense and dark indicate ominous change.
- Standing with your back to the wind, look up. If high altitude clouds move from left to right, the weather will worsen; right to left, it will improve. If clouds move toward or away from you, expect little change.

How to use a Barometer

In order to use a Barometer correctly, readings must be taken regularly, usually every six hours, and recorded, or remembered.

Some Barometers have a mechanical pointer that can be changed to the new reading, then left until it is time to take a new reading.

Coming weather is indicated by the overall change in the Barometric Pressure, which is what the Barometer measures.

Find the current reading and compare it to the previous reading to discover overall change and determine if the change is occurring slowly or rapidly.

Compare the change to the current reading and the season to learn the approaching weather.

BAROMETER READING

	28-29		29-30		30-31	
	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER
Rising Rapidly	Flurries, Gales Cold wave	Gales, Showers, Cooler	Clearing, Windy, Much Colder	Clearing, Windy, Much Cooler	Fair, Windy Much Colder	Fair, Windy Cooler
Rising Slowly	Flurries, Windy Much Colder	Windy, Showers Cooler	Clearing & Colder	Clearing & Cooler	Clearing, Colder	Fair, Dry Cool
Steady	Stormy, Rain Snow	Windy with Showers	Cloudy & Warmer	Little Change	Increasing Cloudiness & Warmer	Little Change
Falling Slowly	Increasing Storm, Strong Wind, Rain or Snow	Increasing Storm, Gales, Rain	Rain or Snow, Warmer	Humid with Showers	Cloudy, Warmer, then Rain or Snow	Cloudy & more Humid
Falling Rapidly	Severe Storm Gales, Rain or Snow	Hurricane	High Wind, Rain or Snow	High Wind, Thunder- showers	Rain or Snow, Windy	Cloudy & Humid Thunder- showers

As a rule: Falling barometer and winds from the east quadrants indicate foul weather.

As a rule: Rising barometer and winds shifting to the west quadrants indicate clearing and fair weather.