



Cloud Identification Chart

THE GLOBE PROGRAM

Altitude of Cloud Base

6 km

5 km

4 km

3 km

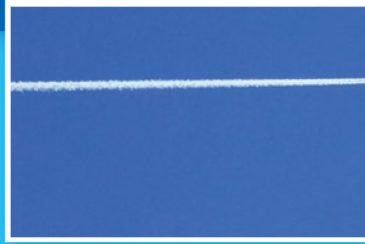
2 km

1 km

Contrails



Short-lived



Persistent Non-Spreading

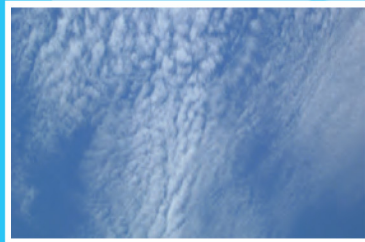


Persistent Spreading

High



Cirrus



Cirrocumulus

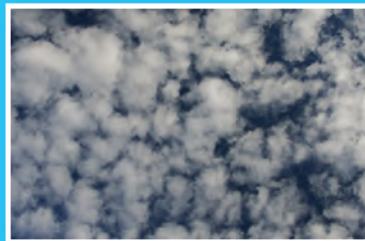


Cirrostratus

Mid

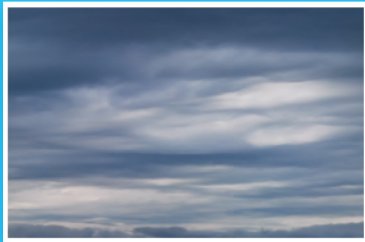


Altostratus



Altocumulus

Low



Stratus



Stratocumulus



Nimbostratus



Fog

CONVECTIVE CLOUDS



Cumulonimbus



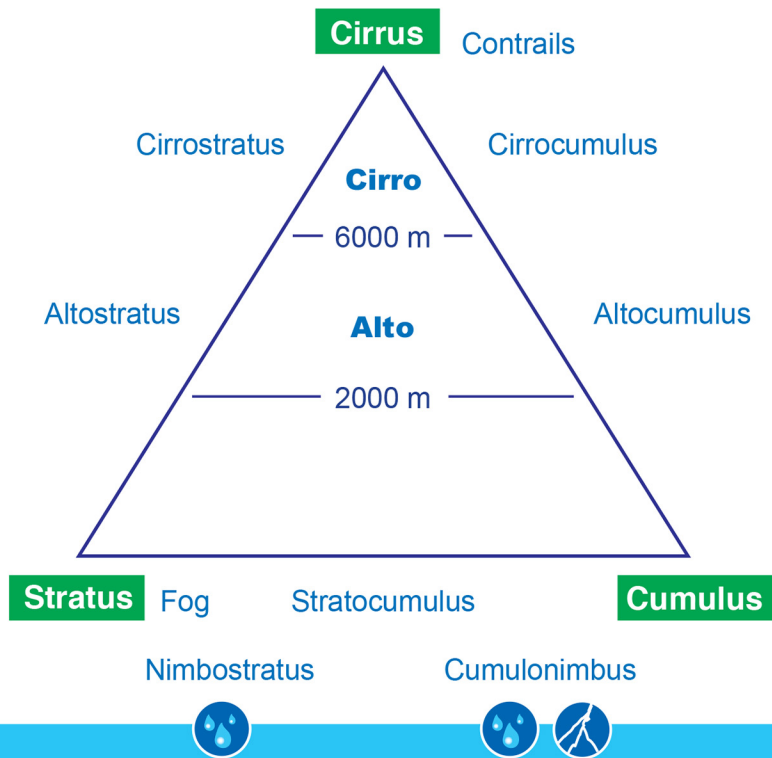
Cumulus



Observation Basics



Cloud Type



Sky Color

Deep Blue Blue Light Blue

Pale Blue Milky

Sky Visibility

Unusually Clear Clear

Somewhat Hazy Very Hazy

Extremely Hazy

Look Across

Cloud Cover

Few (<10%) Isolated (10-25%)

Scattered (25-50%) Broken (50-90%)

Overcast (>90%)

Cloud Opacity

Transparent

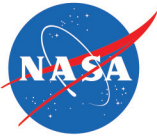
Translucent

Opaque

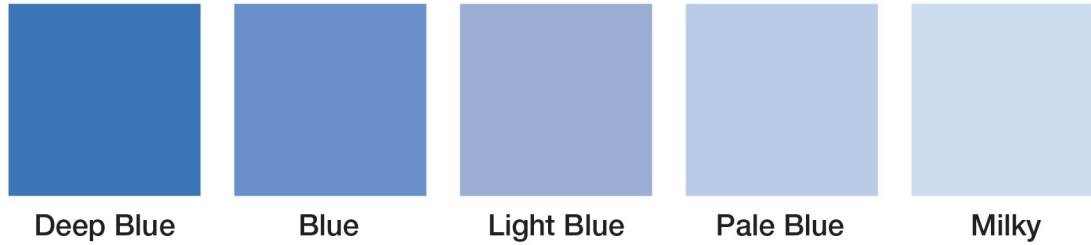
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Implemented by:



Sky Color: What's the deepest shade of blue?



You Can Help NASA Study Aerosols

Aerosols are very small particles floating in the sky. Although they occur in nature (like pollen), aerosols can also be human-made (like car exhaust). A milky or hazy sky is a sign that there are many aerosols in the sky.

Submit your data through:



or through the **GLOBE Observer** app, available for Apple or Android devices.

Participate in NASA Science:

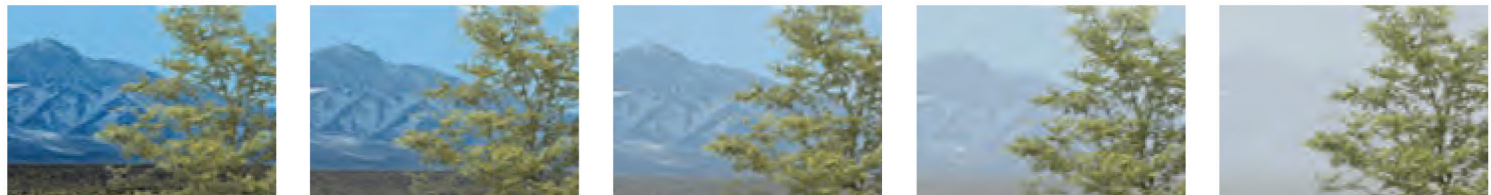
Download the **GLOBE Observer** app and contribute your observations.

observer.globe.gov



remove this card

Sky Visibility: What does a distant object along the horizon look like?



Unusually Clear

Clear

Somewhat Hazy

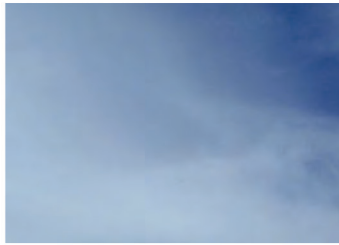
Very Hazy

Extremely Hazy

High-level Clouds



Cirrus



Cirrostratus



Cirrocumulus



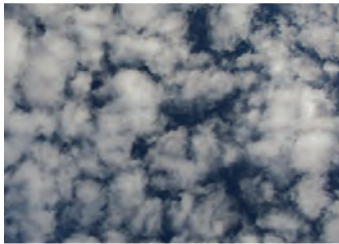
Contrails

When observing the sky, never look directly at the sun!

Mid-level Clouds



Altostratus



Alto cumulus

You Can Help NASA Study Clouds

Clouds have a large influence on Earth's energy balance, climate, and weather. Even small changes in the amount, location, or type of cloud can impact Earth's climate and weather. This is why collecting data on clouds is important.

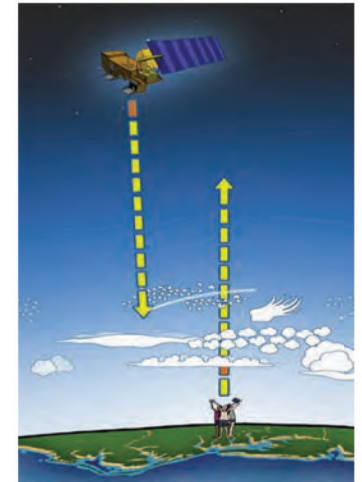
Submit your data through:



THE GLOBE PROGRAM

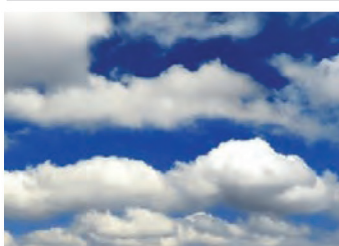
or through the **GLOBE Observer** app, available for Apple or Android devices.

remove this card

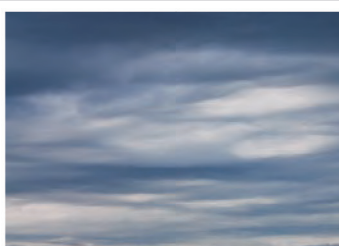


Your reports from the ground looking up help NASA better understand our atmosphere and the views from the satellite looking down.

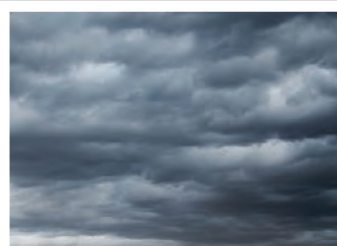
Low-level Clouds



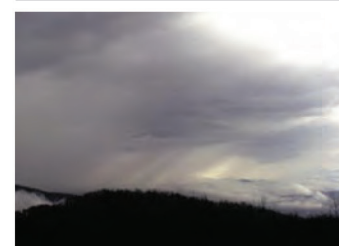
Cumulus



Stratus



Stratocumulus



Nimbostratus



Cumulonimbus

Low-level Precipitating Clouds