

STORMY WEATHER

Let's review the 3 clouds we already learned about!



CUMULUS CLOUDS

Cumulus clouds are the white, puffy clouds that look like cotton balls! They have flat bases and can grow to be very high. Sometimes these can cause turbulence, but pilots don't mind flying through them. These are great clouds to watch on a summer day and see what fun shapes you can see!

STRATUS CLOUDS

Stratus clouds are a sheet of grey across the sky, and are usually lower to the ground than other cloud types.

Sometimes these clouds can be so low, they turn into fog! These clouds are safe to fly through because the air is stable, which means no bumpy ride for pilots.



CUMULONIMBUS CLOUDS

Cumulonimbus - don't worry, we'll keep saying CB - clouds are those huge clouds that pilots stay far away from. CB's are thunderstorm clouds and that means heavy rain, hail, icing, lightning and severe turbulence.



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Let's take a look at a couple other types of clouds you can find in the sky!



ALTOCUMULUS CLOUDS

Altocumulus clouds are another type of puffy cloud, but they are much higher in the sky than cumulus clouds, and much closer together. They kind of look like pebbles on a beach, arranged in waves or lines across the sky. Just like cumulus clouds, these can cause a bit of a bumpy ride, but nothing to be worried about!

CIRRUS CLOUDS

Do you ever look up and see pure white, whispy clouds across the sky? Those are cirrus clouds, and they are even higher in the sky than other clouds! Cirrus clouds can sometimes be formed by breaking off from the tops of those big CB clouds we talked about earlier, and could mean the storm will be over soon. Phew!





Now it's your turn to look at the sky! What types of clouds do you see outside today? Can you see any neat shapes or patterns?