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Altocumulus Clouds

Occasionally altocumulus clouds show vertical development and produce tower-like extensions. These altocumulus clouds are in the early stages of development.

Image courtesy of the UCAR Digital Image Library





Altocumulus Clouds

Sometimes altocumulus clouds appear as white or gray puffy masses in ripples or waves.

Image courtesy of Peggy LeMone





Altocumulus Clouds

Photo of altocumulus clouds at sunset

Image courtesy of Peggy LeMone





Altostratus Clouds

This is an image of altostratus clouds. Notice the difference in thickness and color in the clouds.

Image courtesy of Keith G. Diem





Altostratus Clouds

This image of altostratus clouds was taken in Boulder, Colorado.

Image courtesy of Carlye Calvin





Altostratus Clouds

This photograph of altostratus clouds was taken in Calgary, Canada. Notice the bright part of the cloud that is covering the sun.

Image courtesy of Peggy LeMone





Cirrocumulus Clouds

Sometimes cirrocumulus clouds are made up of groups of small, rounded puffs (like the clouds in this image), and sometimes they appear in long, parallel bands.

Image courtesy of the UCAR Digital Image Gallery





Cirrocumulus Clouds

Cirrocumulus clouds sometimes appear in parallel bands like these clouds. This is also called a "mackerel sky" because the clouds look like the scales of a mackerel fish.

Image courtesy of the UCAR Digital Image Gallery



Cirrocumulus Clouds

This photograph includes cirrocumulus clouds in the center and top of the image and cumulus clouds in the center and lower portion of the image. Notice that the cirrocumulus cloud cells appear smaller than the cumulus clouds.

Image courtesy of Bob Henson/UCAR





Cirrostratus Clouds

This image of cirrostratus clouds was taken near Moab, Utah.

Image courtesy of Anne Pharamond



Cirrostratus Clouds

This is an image of cirrostratus clouds.

Image courtesy of NASA



Cirrostratus Clouds

This is an image of cirrostratus clouds. You can see the sun through these clouds, as well as a big halo or circle around the sun.

Image courtesy of NOAA's National Weather Service





Cirrus Clouds

Cirrus clouds are composed entirely of ice and consist of long, thin, wispy streamers. They are commonly known as "mare's tails" because of their appearance.

Image courtesy of Lisa Gardiner





Cirrus Clouds

This is an image of cirrus clouds. These clouds are thin, wispy, and feathery.

Image courtesy of the UCAR Digital Image Library





Cirrus Clouds

Cirrus clouds may appear even over some of the world's driest areas, such as the high Atacama Desert of northern Chile.

Image courtesy of Caspar Ammann





Cumulonimbus Clouds

This cumulonimbus cloud has the characteristic anvil-shaped top.

Image courtesy of the UCAR Digital Image Library





Cumulonimbus Clouds

This photograph of a cumulonimbus cloud was taken near Fort Lupton, Colorado. You can see some towers growing in this cloud.

Image courtesy of Gregory Thompson





Cumulonimbus Clouds

This cumulonimbus cloud is well-developed and shows the characteristic anvil-shape.

Image courtesy of Roberta Johnson





Cumulus Clouds

Cumulus clouds are puffy white or light gray clouds that look like floating cotton balls. They have sharp outlines and a flat base.

Image courtesy of Carlye Calvin





Cumulus Clouds

This image of cumulus clouds was taken in the mountains of Colorado. You can tell this was taken in the mountains because some of the clouds appear to be below the person taking the photograph!

Image courtesy of Olga and Sergei Kuznetsov





Cumulus Clouds

This image of cumulus clouds was taken in the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve near Alamosa, Colorado.

Image courtesy of Olga and Sergei Kuznetsov





Nimbostratus Clouds

This image of nimbostratus clouds was taken in Seattle, WA. Notice the rain falling out of the clouds, as well as the rainbow!

Image courtesy of Peggy LeMone





Nimbostratus Clouds

Nimbostratus clouds are dark gray with a ragged base.

Image courtesy of English Wikipedia





Nimbostratus Clouds

This image of nimbostratus clouds was taken in Victoria, BC, Canada. Notice that you can't see the edges of the clouds.

Image courtesy of the University of Victoria School-Based Weather Station Network





Stratocumulus Clouds

This photo is of stratocumulus clouds at sunset.

Image courtesy of Carlye Calvin/UCAR





Stratocumulus Clouds

This is an image of stratocumulus clouds. These clouds are low, lumpy, and gray.

Image courtesy of Peggy LeMone





Stratocumulus Clouds

These stratocumulus clouds appear in linear clumps across the sky.

Image courtesy of Olga and Sergei Kuznetsov





Stratus Clouds

This image of stratus clouds was taken in San Gimignano, Tuscany, Italy. The stratus cloud appears as fog on the ground.

Image courtesy of Sara Martin





Stratus Clouds

This image of stratus clouds was taken at sunrise in eastern Colorado. Stratus clouds usually cover the entire sky.

Image courtesy of Gregory Thompson





Stratus Clouds

This type of stratus cloud forms in mountainous areas.

Image courtesy of Olga and Sergei Kuznetsov



Developed by Becca Hatheway for Windows to the Universe www.windows.ucar.edu

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