

The image features a solid blue background with a subtle gradient, transitioning from a lighter blue at the top to a darker blue at the bottom. The word "CLOUDS" is centered in the middle of the image in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters have a slight drop shadow, making them stand out against the blue background.

**CLOUDS**

# The four basic cloud types are

- *cirrus*
- *stratus*
- *cumulus*
- *nimbus*



**Cirrus** comes from the Latin for "thin," "wispy," or "curl of hair." And that is how cirrus clouds appear from the ground. Sometimes they are called **mare's tails**. These clouds often tell us that change is on the way. A storm may be approaching, or warmer air could be knocking on the door.

**Stratus** comes from the Latin meaning "**layer.**" These clouds are flat and stay close to the ground.

**Cumulus** comes from the Latin for "puffy." Those are the fleecy-looking clouds that help paint the sky on a pleasant, quiet day. But these clouds are noted for their strong vertical development. They can form towers, and when they do, watch out. The sky can open up into a violent thunderstorm.

**Nimbus** comes from the Latin for "rain-bearing." Any cloud that delivers rain is a nimbus cloud.

"When clouds appear like  
rocks and towers,  
The earth's refreshed by  
frequent showers.  
When mountains and cliffs  
in the clouds appear,  
Some sudden and violent  
showers are near."  
—G. Herbert

**Cirrus** - "thin," "wispy," or "curl of hair"

**Stratus** - "layer"

**Cumulus** - "puffy"

**Nimbus** - "rain-bearing"

# Classification of Clouds

## 1. High Level Clouds – 6 to 18 km

Cirrus, Cirrostratus, Cirrocumulus

## 2. Middle level Clouds – 2 to 8 km

Altostratus, Altocumulus

## 3. Low level Clouds – 0 to 2 km

Stratus, Stratocumulus, Nimbostratus,  
Cumulus, Cumulonimbus



# Cirrocumulus



High Level

# Cirrustratus



High Level

# Cirrus



High Level

# Alto cumulus



Middle Level

# Altostratus

Middle Level



# Stratus



Low Level

# Stratocumulus



# Cumulonimbus





# Cumulus



# Nimbostratus



Low Level

# precipitation

**Rain** - Water condensed from atmospheric vapor and falling in drops.

**Drizzle** - To rain gently in fine, mistlike drops.

**Hail** - Precipitation in the form of spherical or irregular pellets of ice larger than 5 millimeters (0.2 inches) in diameter.

# Precipitation

**Snow** - Frozen precipitation in the form of white or translucent hexagonal ice crystals that fall in soft, white flakes.

**Sleet** - precipitation of small, partially melted grains of ice. As raindrops fall from clouds, they pass through layers of air at different temperatures. If they pass through a layer with a temperature below the freezing point, they turn into sleet. Snowflakes that have melted by passing through a warm layer will turn into sleet if they then pass through a freezing layer. Sleet often falls together with snow and rain, and may deposit an icy coating on exposed surfaces. Sleet occurs only during the winter, while

Thank you