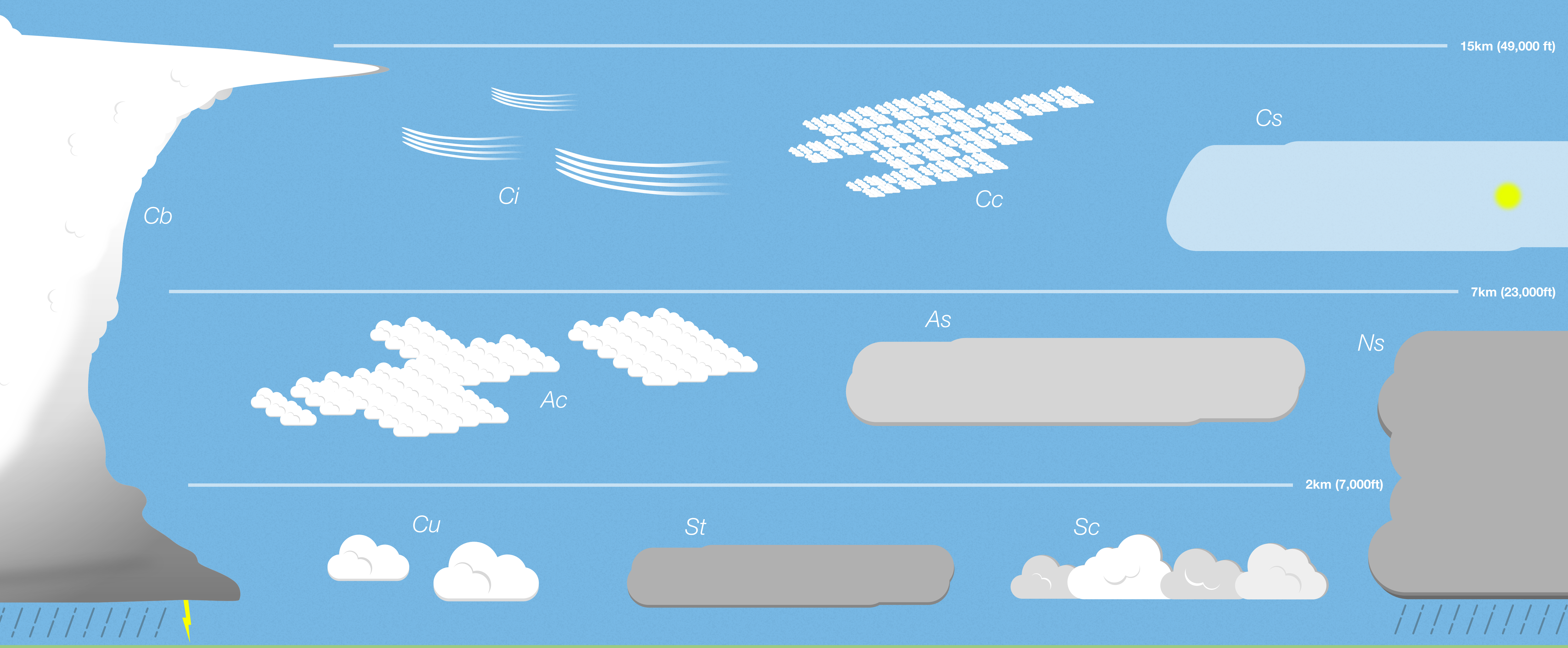




what's this cloud

CLOUD IDENTIFICATION CHART

CLOUD TYPE	LEVEL	SUMMARY	ALTITUDE RANGE (APPROX.)	DESCRIPTION	ABBR
Cirrus	High	High, wispy streaks	5–15km (16,000–49,000 ft)	High-altitude, thin, and wispy cloud streaks made of ice crystals	Ci
Cirrocumulus	High	High-altitude cloudlets	5–15km (16,000–49,000 ft)	Small, flakey, and white high-altitude cumulus patches	Cc
Cirrostratus	High	Pale, veil-like layer	6–13km (20,000–43,000 ft)	Thin, transparent, high-altitude layer capable of producing a halo	Cs
Alto	Middle	Mid-altitude	2–7km (7,000–23,000 ft)	Middle-altitude cumuliform clouds arranged in heaps or rolls	Ac
Stratus	Middle	Mid-altitude gray layer	2–7km (7,000–23,000 ft)	Featureless, gray layer cloud capable of masking the sun	As
Nimbostratus	Middle	Precipitation layer	0.5–5.5km (2,000–18,000 ft)	Dark and featureless layer cloud responsible for rain and snow	Ns
Cumulonimbus	Low	Thunderstorms	0.5–16 km (2,000–52,000 ft)	Dark-based storm cloud capable of impressive vertical growth	Cb
Cumulus	Low	Low, puffy, fair-weather	0.5–2 km (2,000–7,000 ft)	Low-altitude, fluffy heaps of clouds with cotton-like appearance	Cu
Stratus	Low	Low, featureless layer	0–2 km (0–7,000 ft)	Gray, featureless low-altitude cloud capable of ground contact	St
Stratocumulus	Low	Low, puffy layer	0.5–2 km (2,000–7,000 ft)	Thicker, dark gray, and somewhat conjoined heaps of clouds	Sc



NAME	LATIN	DESCRIPTION	ABBR	CIRRUS	CIRRO-CUMULUS	CIRRO-STRATUS	ALTO-CUMULUS	ALTO-STRATUS	NIMBO-STRATUS	CUMULO-NIMBUS	CUMULUS	STRATUS	STRATO-CUMULUS
CLOUD SPECIES				Ci	Cc	Cs	Ac	As	Ns	Cb	Cu	St	Sc
Calvus	Bald	without cirriform, hairless	cal										
Capillatus	Having Hair	fibrous upper portion	cap										
Castellanus	Castle	rising towers, turrets	cas										
Congestus	Piled Up	vertical, taller than it is wide	con										
Fibratus	Fibered	fiberlike, hairlike	fib										
Floccus	Lock of Wool	puffy, ragged tufts	flo										
Fractus	Broken	ragged, broken up	fra										
Humilis	Humble	flattened, wider than it is tall	hum										
Lenticularis	Lentil	lens-shaped, resembling a UFO	len										
Mediocris	Moderate	medium height, tall as it is wide	med										
Nebulosus	Nebulous	full of vapor, lacking detail	neb										
Spissatus	Thick	packed tightly, dense	spi										
Stratiformis	Layer Form	horizontal, layer-like form	str										
Uncinus	Hook	curved, comma-shaped	unc										
Volutus	Revolve	tube-shaped roll cloud	vol										
CLOUD VARIETIES													
Duplicatus	Double	multilayered	du										
Intortus	Contorted	interlaced, entangled	in										
Lacunosus	Full of Gaps	perforated, round frayed holes	la										
Opacus	Darkened	opaque, masks the sun	op										
Perlucidus	Pellucid	transparent by small gaps	pe										
Radiatus	Striped	parallel bands and strips	ra										
Translucidus	Transparent	see-through, sun's position visible	tr										
Undulatus	Undulated	wavelike, undulating	un										
Vertebratus	Jointed	fishbone-like, resembling ribs	ve										
SUPPLEMENTARY FEATURES													
Arcus	Arch	shelf cloud, gust collar	arc										
Asperitas	Harshness	chaotic, wavy underneath	asp										
Cauda	Tail	tail cloud, attached to murus	cau										
Cavum	Cavity	fallstreak hole, hole punch	cav										
Fluctus	Wave	kelvin-helmholtz waves, curls	flu										
Incus	Anvil	anvil above a cumulonimbus	inc										
Mamma	Breast	sac-like, resembling cow udders	mam										
Murus	Wall	wall cloud, cloud lowering	mur										
Praecipitatio	Fall	precipitation reaching the surface	pra										
Tuba	Tube	funnel cloud, tornado	tub										
Virga	Rod	evaporating strips of precipitation	vir										
ACCESSORY CLOUDS													
Flumen	River	beaver tail, detached from murus	flm										
Pannus	Rag	ragged frazzles, scud	pan										
Pileus	Cap	cap or hood over a cumuliform	pil										
Velum	Veil	horizontal cloud veil	vel										
OTHER CLOUDS													
Cataractagenitus	Waterfall	waterfall condensation and spray	cagen										
Flammagenitus	Flame	pyrocumulus, caused from fire	flgen										
Homogenitus	Human	caused by human activity	hogen										
Homomutatus	Human	mutated from a homogenitus	homut										
Silvagenitus	Forest	evaporation from a forest	sigen										

LATIN TRANSLATIONS

Cirro- *Curl*
Cumulo- *Heap*
Strato- *Layer*
Nimbo- *Rain*
Alto- *High*

SIX STEPS TO NAMING CLOUDS BY THEIR FULL NAME

1. Identify the cloud type (choose 1)
2. Identify a cloud species (choose up to 1)
3. Identify any cloud varieties (apply multiple if applicable)
4. Identify any supplementary features (apply multiple if applicable)
5. Identify any accessory clouds (apply multiple if applicable)
6. Identify any other clouds (apply multiple if applicable)

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