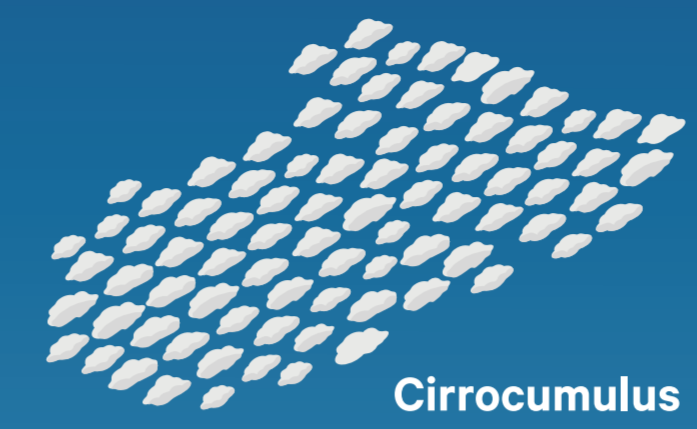


New Zealand Cloud Types

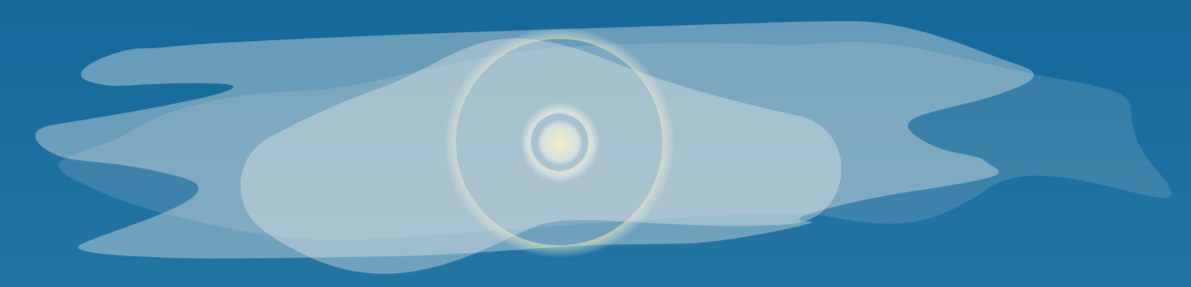
metservice.com



Cirrus
made up of ice crystals forming wispy clouds, sometimes called mare's tails



Cirrocumulus
ice crystals arranged into cellular structure



Cirrostratus
A thin veil of ice crystals, when the sun shines through it can display solar halos

High Clouds

Above 6,000m (20,000ft)

Middle Clouds

Between 2,000m (6,500ft) & 6,000m (20,000ft)



Altostratus Lenticularis
a stationary cloud which often resembles stacked lenses or saucers



Altocumulus
like altostratus, but has a cellular structure



Altostratus
usually develops following cirrostratus, as a front approaches

Nimbostratus
is associated with frontal systems and prolonged rain or snow when cold enough

Cumulonimbus
causes thunderstorms, heavy rain and hail

Towering Cumulus
is the smaller sibling of cumulonimbus

Low Clouds

Below 2,000m (6,500ft)



Cumulus Humilis
is also called fair weather cumulus, clear or sunny between these clouds



Stratocumulus
is a flat layer of shallow cumulus cells – very common in New Zealand



Stratus
cloud that forms very close to the ground, often after rain

