

[SEARCH Met Office](#)[GO](#)[Home](#) ▶ [Aviation](#) ▶ [Login](#) ▶ [Briefing service](#) ▶ [Abbreviations](#)[Logout](#)[British Isles](#)[Europe](#)[Global](#)[Help and information](#)

Abbreviations used in aviation forecasts and warnings

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**A**

AC	Alto cumulus
AD	Aerodrome
AGL	Above ground level
AMD	Amend or amended
AMSL	Above mean sea level
APR	April
AS	Altostratus
ASR	Altimeter setting region
AUG	August
AUTO	Automated METAR (produced with CAA approval outside normal operational hours)

B

BASE	Cloud base
BCFG	Fog patches
BECMG	Becoming
BKN	Broken (5 to 7 oktas)
BL	Blowing
BLW	Below
BR	Mist
BTN	Between

C

C	Degrees Celsius
CAT	Clear Air Turbulence
CAVOK	Ceiling and visibility OK
CB	Cumulonimbus
CC	Cirrocumulus
CI	Cirrus
CIT	Near or over large towns
CLD	Cloud
COR	Correction
COT	At the coast
CS	Cirrostratus
CU	Cumulus

D

D	Downward (tendency in RVR in Civil observations)
DEC	December
DEG	Degrees
DP	Dew point temperature
DR	Low drifting (followed by DU, SA or SN)
DS	Duststorm
DU	Dust (in suspension)
DUC	Dense upper cloud
DZ	Drizzle

E

E	East or easterly
ENE	East-north-east or east-north-easterly
ESE	East-south-east or east-south-easterly

N

N	North or northerly
NAT	North Atlantic
NCD	No Cloud Detected (on AUTO METARs only)
NDV	No Directional Variation (on AUTO METARs only)
NE	North-east or north-easterly
NIL	None
NM	Nautical miles
NNE	North-north-east or north-north-easterly
NNW	North-north-west or north-north-westerly
NOSIG	No significant change expected
NOTAM	Notice containing important aeronautical information to all personnel concerned with flight operations
NOV	November
NS	Nimbostratus
NSC	No significant cloud
NSW	No significant weather
NW	North-west or north-westerly

O

OCNL	Occasional, occasionally
OCT	October
OVC	Overcast (8 oktas)

P

P	Greater than the highest reportable value (RVR)
PL	Ice pellets
PO	Dust devils
PRFG	Fog banks
PROB	Probability
PS	Plus
PSYS	Pressure System(s)

Q

QFE	Atmospheric pressure at specified datum
QNE	Aerodrome height expressed in pressure altitude
QNH	Altimeter sub-scale setting to obtain elevation when on the ground

R

RA	Rain
RMK	Remarks
RVR	Runway visual range
RWY	Runway

S

S	South or southerly
SA	Sand (in suspension)
SC	Stratocumulus
SCT	Scattered (3 or 4 oktas)
SE	South-east or south-easterly
SEA	At sea

EMBD	Embedded	SEP	September
ETA	Estimated time of arrival	SEV	Severe
ETD	Estimated time of departure	SFC	Surface
F		SG	Snow grains
FC	Funnel cloud	SH...	Shower (followed by RA, SN, PL, GR, GS or combinations thereof)
FCST	Forecast	SIG	Significant
FEB	February	SKC	Sky clear
FEW	Few (1 or 2 oktas)	SN	Snow (flakes)
FG	Fog	SPECI	Aviation special weather report
FL	Flight level	SQ	Squall
FM...	From (followed by time weather change is to begin)	SS	Sandstorm
FPM	Feet per minute	SSE	South-south-east or south-south-easterly
FRQ	Frequent	SSW	South-south-west or south-south-westerly
FT	Feet	ST	Stratus
FU	Smoke	STNR	Stationary
FZ	Freezing (followed by DZ, FG or RA)	SW	South-west or south-westerly
G		T	
G	Gust	T	Temperature
GEN	Generally	TAF	Terminal aerodrome forecast
GND	Ground	TCU	Towering cumulus
GR	Hail (5 mm or more in diameter)	TEMPO	Temporary, temporarily
GS	Small hail or snow pellets	TL	Until
H		TOP	Cloud top
H	High pressure centre	TROP	Tropopause
HPA	Hectopascals (= Millibar)	TS	Thunderstorm (may also be followed by RA, SN, PL, GR, GS or combinations thereof)
HVY	Heavy	TURB	Turbulence
HZ	Haze	U	
I		U	Upward (tendency in RVR)
IC	Ice crystals (diamond dust)	UP	Unidentified Precipitation (on AUTO METARs only)
ICE	Icing	UTC	Co-ordinated Universal Time
INS	Inches (on F2309)	V	
INTSF	Intensifying	VA	Volcanic ash
IRVR	Instrumented RVR	VAL	In valleys
ISOL	Isolated	VC...	In vicinity of aerodrome (followed by FG, FC, SH, PO, BLDU, BLSA, BLSN)
J		VIS	Visibility
JAN	January	VRB	Variable
JTST	Jet stream	VSP	Vertical speed
JUL	July	W	
JUN	Jun	W	West or westerly
K		WAFC	World Area Forecast Centre
KM	Kilometres	WDSPR	Widespread
KMH	Kilometres per hour	WNW	West-north-west or west-north-westerly
KT	Knots	WRNG	Warning
L		WS	Wind shear
L	Low pressure centre	WSPD	Wind speed
LAN	Inland (or over land)	WSW	West-south-west or west-south-westerly
LOC	Locally	WX	Weather
LSQ	Line squall	Z	
LV	Light & variable (relating to wind)	Z	Co-ordinated Universal Time
LYR	Layer(s), layered		
M			
M	Less than 0 °C (temperature)		
M	Less than the lowest reportable value (RVR)		
M	Metres		
MAR	March		
MAX	Maximum		
MB	Millibars		
METAR	Aviation routine weather report		

MI	Shallow (followed by FG)
MNM	Minimum
MOD	Moderate
MON	Above or covering mountains
MPS	Metres per second
MS	Minus
MSL	Mean sea level
MTW	Mountain waves

www.metoffice.gov.uk

© Crown Copyright