



A Kite Flyer's Field Guide for Judging Wind Speed

<u>Beaufort Scale #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Wind Speed</u>	<u>Observable Conditions</u>
0	Calm	< 1 mph	Smoke rises vertically.
1	Light air	1 - 3 mph	Smoke drift indicates wind direction; wind vanes don't move.
2	Light breeze	4 - 7 mph	Wind felt on exposed skin. Leaves rustle; wind vanes begin to move.
3	Gentle breeze	8 - 12 mph	Leaves and small twigs constantly moving; light flags extended.
Start Flying Fun			
4	Moderate breeze	13 - 17 mph	Dust and loose paper raised; small branches begin to move.
Fun Flying Zone			
5	Fresh breeze	18 - 24 mph	Moderately sized branches move; small trees in leaf begin to sway.
Serious Kite Flying Zone			
6	Strong breeze	25 - 30 mph	Large branches in motion. Whistling heard in overhead wires. Umbrella use becomes difficult. Empty garbage cans tip over.
Extreme Kite Flying. Be Careful. Anchor small children!			
7	High wind	31 - 38 mph	Whole trees in motion. Effort needed to walk against the wind.
Too Much Fun! Time to protect yourself and your kite from damage!			
8	Gale	39 - 46 mph	Some twigs broken from trees. Cars veer on road. Progress on foot is seriously impeded.