Table 2-1. The Beaufort scale.

Beaufort Number	Seaman's Description of wind	Terms used by U. S. Weather Bureau	Velocity M.P.H.	Velocity Knots	Estimating Velocities on land	Estimating Velocities on sea	Probable mean height of waves in feet	Description of sea
1	Calm	Calm	Less than 1	Less than 1	Smoke rises vertically	Sea like a mirror		Calm (glassy)
2	Light air	Light	1-3	1-3	Smoke drifts; wind vanes unmoved.	Ripples with the appearance of scales are formed but without foam crests.	$\frac{1}{2}$	Rippled
3	Gentle breeze	Gentle	8-12	7-10	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag.	Large wavelets. Crests begin to break. Foam of glassy appearance. Perhaps scattered white caps.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	
4	Moderate breeze	Moderate	13-18	11-16	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches are moved.	Small waves, becoming longer; fairly frequent white caps.	5	Slight
5	Fresh breeze	Fresh	19-24	17-21	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland water.	Moderate waves, taking a more pronounced long form; many white caps are formed. (Chance of some spray.)	10	Moderate
6	Strong breeze	Strong	25-31	22-27	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrellas used with difficulty.	Large waves begin to form; the white foam crests are more extensive everywhere. (Probably some spray.)	15	Rough
7	Moderate gale		32-38	28-33	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt in walking against the wind.	Sea heaps up and white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown in streaks along the direction of the wind.	20	Very rough
8	Fresh gale	Gale	29-46	34-40	Breaks twigs of trees; generally impedes progress.	Moderately high waves of greater length; edges of crests break into spin-drift. The foam is blown in well-marked streaks along the direction of the wind.	25	High
9	Strong gale		47-56	41-47	Slight structural damage occurs.	High waves. Dense streaks of foam along the direction of the wind. Sea begins to roll. Spray may affect visibility.	30	
10	Whole gale	Whole gale	55-63	48-55	Trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs.	Very high waves with long, overhanging crests. The resulting foam, in great patches, is blown in dense white streaks along the direction of the wind. On the whole, the surface of the sea takes a white appearance. The rolling of the sea becomes heavy and shocklike. Visibility is affected.	35	Very high
11	Storm		64-75	56-65		Exceptionally high waves. (Small and medium sized ships might for a long time be lost to view behind the waves.) The sea is completely covered with long white patches of foam lying along the direction of the wind. Everywhere edges of the wave crests are blown into froth. Visibility affected.	40	
12	Hurricane	Hurricane	Above 75	Above 65		The air is filled with foam and spray. Sea completely white with driving spray; visibility very seriously affected.	45 or more	Phenomenal