



## Beaufort Scale – 19<sup>th</sup> Century Maritime Version

| Beaufort # | Nautical Miles/hr | Description       | Sea Ht (in ft.) | Deep Sea Criteria  | Sailing Conditions  |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| 0          | 0-1               | Calm              | ----            | flat calm, mirror smooth   |   |
| 1          | 1-3               | Light Airs        | ¼               | small wavelets, no crests  | Just sufficient to give steerage way  |
| 2          | 4-6               | Light Breeze      | ½               | small wavelets, crests glassy but do not break                           |   |
| 3          | 7-10              | Light Breeze      | 2               | large wavelets, crests begin to break                                    | or that in which a man-o-war with all sail set, and clean full would go in smooth water   |
| 4          | 11-16             | Moderate Breeze   | 3 ½             | small waves, becoming longer, crests break frequently                    |   |
| 5          | 17-21             | Fresh Breeze      | 6               | moderate waves, longer, breaking crests                                  |   |
| 6          | 22-27             | Strong Breeze     | 9 ½             | large waves forming, crests break more frequently                        |   |
| 7          | 28-33             | Strong Wind       | 13 ½            | large waves, streaky foam  | or that in which a man-o-war could just carry in chase, full and by.                      |
| 8          | 34-40             | Near Gale         | 18              | high waves of increasing length, crests form spindrift                   |   |
| 9          | 41-47             | Strong Gale       | 23              | high waves, dense streaks of foam, crests rollover                       |   |
| 10         | 48-55             | Storm             | 29              | very high waves, long overhanging crests, surface of sea white with foam | or that with which she could scarcely bear close-reefed main-topsail and reefed fore-sail |
| 11         | 56-65             | Violent Storm     | 37              | exceptionally high waves, sea completely covered with foam               | or that which would reduce her to storm staysails   |
| 12         | above 65          | Hurricane/Typhoon | -----           | air filled with spray and visibility seriously affected                  | or that which no canvas could withstand   |

