

# Measuring Hurricanes

How do we measure ourselves? We usually consider our height and weight. How do they measure hurricanes?

Hurricanes are measured on a scale based on wind speed and potential for damage. This scale was developed to give forecasters, local officials and the general public a way to realize the strength of a hurricane that everyone understood. Access the following Web page to learn more about tis scale.

Hunting for Hurricanes ..... Formation ..... 5. Measuring Hurricanes

1. What is the name of the scale used to measure hurricanes?

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2. Who invented the scale and when?

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3. How many categories are on the scale?

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4. What measurements of a hurricane are included on the scale?

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5. What is the weakest category of hurricane and what are its characteristics?

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6. What is the strongest category of hurricane and what are its characteristics?

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7. Most hurricanes recorded in the past century have been category three. What are the characteristics of a category three hurricane?

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Complete the chart below based on the description of the five categories of hurricanes.

Category	Damage to Foliage	Damage to Buildings/Property	Damage to Highway/Road
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			