

## AN ALTERNATIVE BEAUFORT SCALE FOR RINGERS

Force/ Description	Mean in MPH	Traditional Specification	For use by ringers
0 Calm	0	Smoke rises vertically	Mist nets hang motionless; seldom experienced on ringing days
1 Light Air	1-3	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes	Mist nets turn white on frosty mornings. Nets ripple sufficiently to deter rare vagrants
2 Light Breeze	4-7	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; ordinary vanes moved by wind	Netting becomes entangled with the nearest bramble bush
3 Gentle Breeze	8-12	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag	Mist net fills with leaves, small twigs and alder cones in autumn
4 Moderate Breeze	13-18	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches are moved	Shelf panels billow; only common birds remain pocketed
5 Fresh Breeze	19-24	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland waters	Shelf panels constantly billowed; local nature group due to arrive for ringing demonstration
6 Strong Breeze	25-31	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrella used with difficulty	Shelf strings stretch and become liable to snap; Heligoland traps come into their own
7 Near Gale	32-38	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt when walking against wind	Bamboo poles bend and/or break
8 Gale	39-46	Breaks twigs off trees; generally impedes progress	What mist net??
9 Strong Gale	47-54	Slight structural damage occurs (chimney pots and slates removed)	Whole ringing sites destroyed (especially in SE England)
10 Storm	55-63	Seldom experienced inland. Trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs	You must be on Fair Isle
11 Violent Storm	64-72	Very rarely experienced; accompanied by widespread damage	You <i>are</i> on Fair Isle!
12 Hurricane	73+		Reserved for use by the media

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