



Recipe for a Hurricane

Ingredients

Warm water (over 27°C)

Deep water (at least the top 50 metres of water needs to be warm)

Fast winds

Method

1. Wind blows across the Atlantic Ocean, from Africa to America.
2. The warm water of the Atlantic Ocean near the equator evaporates.
3. As it rises, the water vapour condenses and forms large clouds.
4. The rising warm air creates an expanding column of clouds.
5. As the air rises, it cools. Cool air sinks. The rapid movement and changing temperature of air creates unstable conditions.
6. Unstable conditions + changing air pressure = thunderstorms and fast, circular winds.
7. The winds get quicker and circle around a calm “eye” in the centre of the storm. They eye can reach up to 30 miles wide.



If you stir a cup of water very quickly then take your spoon out to watch it spin, you will see fast moving particles moving around a central point. The hurricane winds work in the same way, but their central point is still and expanding.

8. When the winds reach 74mph, the storm is classified as a hurricane.