There are ten basic cloud types arranged in three divisions based on the altitude at which they form. Low-level clouds are Cumulus, Cumulonimbus, Stratus, and Stratocumulus. Middle level clouds are Altocumulus, Altostratus and Nimbostratus. High level clouds are Cirrus, Cirrocumulus and Cirrostratus. Precipitation primarily occurs from Cumulus, Cumulonimbus and Nimbostratus.

These ten clouds are further divided into 27 classifications. Many of these classifications represent the same basic cloud type (or combinations of clouds) but in various stages of development, opacity, or sky cover.

Learn more about clouds at www.weather.gov/jetstream