

Is it raining, but only drizzly, with small raindrops?

Your cloud is a nimbostratus

Is it a high wispy cloud, like a horse's tail?

Your cloud is a

cirrus

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If it is a low cloud, so low it's hard to see the bottom and it covers most of the sky, it is a stratus

Hold up your hand to the cloud. If the puffs are the size of your fist (large), your cloud is a cumulus

If your cloud is nearly solid layer of large puffs (the size of your fist or larger), your cloud is stratocumulus

If it's raining with thunder, lightning, & heavy rain?
Your cloud is a cumulonimbus



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Hold your hand towards the cloud. If puffs are fingernail size (very small), the cloud is a cirrocumulus

If it is thicker, the sun is dimmer, and there are hardly any shadows, it is an altostratus

If your cloud is high, thin, and the sun is shining casting distinct shadows, it is a cirrostratus.

Hold up your hand to the cloud. If the puffs are the size of your thumb (medium-sized), your cloud is altocumulus