A Weather Log

Don't trust to memory when making a weather observation-write it down. Try to take at least two readings of sky conditions and instruments each day. Additional readings will give an even better picture of changing weather patterns. Three-hourly observations are suitable for most amateur records. An observer should keep a weather log to record observations. It can be just as simple or just as complete as you want to make it, depending upon the observations to be made. Here is a brief explanation of the entries to be made in this log. Instruments for observing the weather are discussed later.

Sky: Enter the state of the sky (cloud cover) in tenths or substitute the following symbols: O-clear (less than 1/10); @ - scattered (2110 to 5/10); O-broken (5110 to 9/10; @-overcast (more than 9/10). If some form of precipitation is occurring substitute one of the following letters for the symbol: R-Rain; S-Snow; H-Hail; T-Thunderstorm; E-Sleet; F-Fog; Z-Freezing Rain; L-Drizzle.

Temperature: read all thermometers to the nearest whole degree (C or F) and enter current reading. Read the maximum thermometer at the P.M. observation and the minimum thermometer at the A.M. observation. Remember to reset these thermometers after each reading. Figure the day's mean temperature by adding the maximum temperature and dividing by 2.

Humidity: Read wet and dry bulb thermometer of psychrometer, consult the table, and enter as a whole percentage. Comparison of the reading on the wet bulb thermometer with those on a dry bulb thermometer will show relative humidity by using this table. Top figures on the chat are the present dry bulb reading. By checking the left column for degree difference shown on the two Thermometers and across to the dry bulb reading, the relative humidity can be found. For instance, if the difference between dry and wet bulb thermometers is 6 degrees, and the dry reads 70 degrees, the relative humidity is 72 percent.

Barometer: Read barometer to the nearest hundredth of an inch (or half a millibar*). If the barometer has been rising during the past three hours, mark a plus (+) after the reading entered; if falling, mark a minus (-) after the reading.

Wind: Observe the wind direction to eight points of the compass (N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW). Read anemometer or estimate wind speed using the table below. ~nter wind direction and speed-for example NE-5 or SW-12.

Precipitation: Read gage and enter the amount to the nearest tenth of an inch. If no precipitation has occurred leave column blank. Indicate less than a tenth **.of** an inch by **"T"** for **"Trace".** If precipitation is snow take several readings on the ground with a yardstick. Make sure measurements are not made in drifted snow. Average the readings and enter inches following by the symbol **"*"**. (Generally speaking, 10 inches of snow equals one inch of water but this varies depending on the composition of the snow.) Be sure to empty the gage after each observation.

Remarks: Enter any special phenomena such as lightning and thunder or smoke or haze and indicate times that the event was observed. Cloud entries may be made here showing type and direction of movement.

****The millibar is a unil of pressure in a universal equal to, 3 one-hundredths of an inch of mercury.***

Table of Relative Humidity
Temperature of air, dry-bulb thermometer, Fahrenheit

Difference between wet-bulb and dry-bulb readings	30°	40°	50°	60°	70°	80°	90°	100°
1	90	92	93	94	95	96	96	97
2	79	84	87	89	90	92	92	93
3	68	76	80	84	86	87	88	90
4	58	68	74	78	81	83	85	86
6	38	52	61	68	72	75	78	80
8	18	37	49	58	64	68	71	71
10		22	37	48	55	61	65	68
12		8	26	39	48	54	59	62
14			16	30	40	47	53	57
16			5	21	33	41	47	51
18				13	26	35	41	47
20				5	19	29	36	42
22					12	23	32	37
24					6	18	26	33

MONTH	SKY		TEMPERATURE					HUMIDITY		BAROMETER		WIND		Precipitation		Remarks
	AM	PM	AM	PM	Max.	Min	Mean	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
1																
2																
3																
4																
5																
6																
7																
8																
9																
10																
11																
12																