



Specification for the Hong Kong Observatory's Text-only Website (version 16.0)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/index.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/indexc.htm>

The site map

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1.1 Warning(s) in Force -- 生效警告 (can be issued at any time)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/warning/warn.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/warning/warnc.htm>

A coding of warnings has been added in the text-based warning web page. With this simple coding, programmers only need to code their programs to search for a number instead of a string. It can avoid the exact wording problem. The **SAMPLE** layouts are as follow:

English: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/warning/warn_sample.htm

Chinese: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/warning/warnc_sample.htm

The warning code is written in the web page in such a way that it is hidden in the browser but can be seen by opening the source file (i.e. in Netscape, View > Page Source). Below is a part of warning web page containing the warning codes:

```
...
<!--Warning-->
<p>1. VERY HOT WEATHER WARNING ( 16:30 HKT - 24.07.2000 )</p>
<p>2. STAND BY SIGNAL NO. 1( 17:30 HKT - 24.07.2000 )</p>
<!--/Warning-->
<!--Warning Codes
20
1
-->
...
```

The codes are placed between the "<!--Warning Codes" and the "-->" tags. Each line between the tags contains a number representing an issued warning. The order is same as that of the full wordings and doesn't relate to the issued time. The page will be updated whenever a warning is issued/cancelled. The mapping between the codes and the warnings is defined in the first column of the table in the Information on Warnings web page:

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/intro.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/introc.htm>

Format of each record shown on 'Warning(s) in Force' page¹:

N. [WARNING] (ISSUE TIME)

¹ Remarks:

1. Each line of record indicates issuance of a particular warning
2. N = A sequence number, i.e. 1,2,3...
3. [WARNING] = Name and cartoon of warning, please refer to the "Warnings: Definitions and Meanings" page (www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/intro.htm). For Chinese version, please see "各類警告定義" (www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/introc.htm).
4. For English, ISSUE TIME = HH:MM HKT - DD.MM.YYYY.
5. For Chinese, ISSUE TIME = YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分



1.2 Special Announcements -- 特別報告 (can be issued at any time)

Contains announcements and precautions on the warnings in force:

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/warning/detail.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/warning/detailc.htm>

1.3 Warnings: Definitions and Meanings -- 各類警告定義 (static page)

Contains an introduction on warnings:

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/intro.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/introc.htm>

2.1 Current Weather Report -- 本港地區天氣報告 (normally updated every hour (HH+02min), warnings and special announcements may be included at any time)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/englishwx.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/chinesewx.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

AT [TIME1]* AT THE HONG KONG OBSERVATORY
AIR TEMPERATURE : XX DEGREES CELSIUS
RELATIVE HUMIDITY : XX PER CENT
WEATHER CARTOON : NO.XX - CAPTION

Please refer to the following web page for cartoon numbering and icons:

http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/wxicon_e.htm

DURING THE PAST HOUR THE MEAN UV INDEX RECORDED AT KING'S PARK : X.X
INTENSITY OF UV RADIATION : [INTENSITY]*

<UV Precaution Message>

[Optional : When Intensity of UV Radiation is EXTREME, the following precaution message will be included]

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED TO AVOID PROLONGED EXPOSURE UNDER THE SUN TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO SKIN AND EYES.

<Warnings and Special Announcements>

[Optional : may contain advance alert of issuance/cancellation/replacement of rainstorm/tropical cyclone warning signals]



<Regional Temperatures>

The air temperatures at other places were:

King's Park	XX degrees;
Wong Chuk Hang	XX degrees;
Ta Kwu Ling	XX degrees;
Lau Fau Shan	XX degrees;
Tai Po	XX degrees;
Sha Tin	XX degrees;
Tuen Mun	XX degrees;
Tseung Kwan O	XX degrees;
Sai Kung	XX degrees;
Cheung Chau	XX degrees;
Chek Lap Kok	XX degrees;
Shek Kong	XX degrees;
Tsuen Wan Ho Koon	XX degrees;
Tsuen Wan Shing Mun Valley	XX degrees;
Hong Kong Park	XX degrees;
Shau Kei Wan	XX degrees;
Kowloon City	XX degrees;
Happy Valley	XX degrees;
Wong Tai Sin	XX degrees;
Stanley	XX degrees;
Kwun Tong	XX degrees;
Sham Shui Po	XX degrees.

<Regional Rainfall>

[Optional: When there are lightning activities, and/or only those regions with rainfall exceeding 1 mm, corresponding statement will be included]

BETWEEN [TIME2] * AND [TIME2] * . , LIGHTNING WAS DETECTED WITHIN [AREA] .

-----Note: The above statement will appear when there are recorded lightning activities -----

BETWEEN [TIME2] * AND [TIME2] * . , THE MAXIMUM RAINFALL RECORDED IN VARIOUS REGIONS WERE :

-----Note: The above 2 lines will become the following when there are both lightning activities and rainfall recorded -----

BETWEEN [TIME2] * AND [TIME2] * . , LIGHTNING WAS DETECTED WITHIN [AREA] .
THE MAXIMUM RAINFALL RECORDED IN VARIOUS REGIONS WERE :

SOUTHERN DISTRICT	X MM;
LAMMA ISLAND	X MM;



WAN CHAI	X MM;
EASTERN DISTRICT	X MM;
CENTRAL & WESTERN DISTRICT	X MM;
KOWLOON EAST	X MM;
SAI KUNG	X MM;
LANTAU ISLAND	X MM;
KOWLOON WEST	X MM;
KWAI TSING	X MM;
SHA TIN	X MM;
NORTH DISTRICT	X MM;
TSUEN WAN	X MM;
TAI PO	X MM;
YUEN LONG	X MM;
TUEN MUN	X MM.

*Note: [TIME1] = {HH A.M., HH P.M., NOON, MIDNIGHT}
 [TIME2] = {HH:45 A.M., HH:45 P.M., HH:45}
 [AREA] = {name of the area}
 [INTENSITY] = {LOW, MODERATE, HIGH, VERY HIGH, EXTREME}

HERE IS THE [VAR-TEXT]:

[Optional : may contain position and intensity information on Tropical Cyclone]

*Note:[VAR-TEXT] = {narrative includes classification and name of Tropical Cyclone}

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

[TIME3]* XX 時 天文台錄得：
 氣溫：XX 度
 相對濕度：百分之 XX
 天氣插圖：編號 XX - CAPTION

Please refer to the following web page for cartoon numbering and icons:

Chinese: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/wxicon_c.htm

過去一小時，京士柏錄得的平均紫外線指數：x.x

紫外線強度：[強度]*

<防曬措施>

[Optional : When Intensity of UV Radiation (紫外線強度) is EXTREME (極高), the following precaution message will be included]

市民應避免長時間在戶外曝曬，以免曬傷皮膚和眼睛。

<警告及特別報告>

[Optional : may contain advance alert of issuance/cancellation/replacement of rainstorm/tropical cyclone warning signals]

<各區氣溫>

本港其他地區的氣溫：

京士柏	X 度，
黃竹坑	X 度，
打鼓嶺	X 度，
流浮山	X 度，
大埔	X 度，
沙田	X 度，
屯門	X 度，
將軍澳	X 度，
西貢	X 度，
長洲	X 度，
赤鱸角	X 度，
青衣	X 度，
石崗	X 度，
荃灣可觀	X 度，
荃灣城門谷	X 度，
香港公園	X 度，
筲箕灣	X 度，
九龍城	X 度，
跑馬地	X 度，
黃大仙	X 度，
赤柱	X 度，
觀塘	X 度，
深水埗	X 度。

<各區雨量>

[Optional: When there are lightning activities, and/or only those regions with rainfall exceeding 1 mm, corresponding statement will be included]

[TIME3]* XX 時 45 分至 [TIME4]* XX 時 45 分， [AREA] 有閃電記錄。

-----Note: The above statement will appear when there are recorded lightning activities -----



[TIME3]* XX 時 45 分至 [TIME4]* XX 時 45 分，各區錄得最高雨量如下：

-----Note: The above 2 lines will become the following when there are both lightning activities and rainfall recorded -----

[TIME3]* XX 時 45 分至 [TIME4]* XX 時 45 分，[AREA] 有閃電記錄。各區錄得最高雨量如下：

南區	X 毫米，
南丫島	X 毫米，
灣仔	X 毫米，
東區	X 毫米，
中西區	X 毫米，
九龍東	X 毫米，
西貢	X 毫米，
大嶼山	X 毫米，
九龍西	X 毫米，
葵青	X 毫米，
沙田	X 毫米，
北區	X 毫米，
荃灣	X 毫米，
大埔	X 毫米，
元朗	X 毫米，
屯門	X 毫米。

*注意：[強度] = {低、中等、高、甚高、極高}
[TIME3] = {上午、中午、下午、午夜}
[TIME4] (optional) = {上午、中午、下午、午夜}
[AREA] = {name of the area}

以下是有關 [VAR-TEXT]：

[Optional : may contain position and intensity information on Tropical Cyclone]

*注意：[VAR-TEXT] = {narrative includes classification and name of Tropical Cyclone}



2.2 Yesterday's Weather and Radiation Level Report -- 昨日天氣及輻射水平資料 (updated once a day, 00:15H)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/pastwx/ryestxt.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/pastwx/ryesctxt.htm>

English version:

Bulletin issued at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Chinese version:

香港天文台在 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

3.1 Local Weather Forecast -- 本港地區天氣預報 (normally updated hourly (HH+45, 1615H, 2315H), but more frequent if situation changes rapidly)

Contains a synopsis and latest weather forecast of around 24 hours ahead for Hong Kong:

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/local.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/localc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

3.2 7-day Weather Forecast – 七天天氣預報 (normally updated twice daily (11:30H & 16:30H) but can be more frequent if situation changes)

Contains a synopsis and weather forecast up to 7 days ahead for Hong Kong

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/nday.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/ndayc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

[Content: refer to the 7-day weather forecast bulletin]

WEATHER CARTOONS FOR 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

DAY 1 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption

DAY 2 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption

DAY 3 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption

DAY 4 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption



DAY 5 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption

DAY 6 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption

DAY 7 CARTOON NO. XX - Caption

Please refer to the following web page for information on the cartoons for 7-day forecast:

http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/wxicon_e.htm

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

[Content: refer to the 7-day weather forecast bulletin]

七天天氣預報插圖

第一天插圖編號 XX - Caption

第二天插圖編號 XX - Caption

第三天插圖編號 XX - Caption

第四天插圖編號 XX - Caption

第五天插圖編號 XX - Caption

第六天插圖編號 XX - Caption

第七天插圖編號 XX - Caption

Please refer to the following web page for information on the cartoons for 7-day forecast:

http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/explain/wxicon_c.htm

3.3 South China Coastal Waters -- 華南海域天氣報告 (updated 6 times a day, 03:30H, 05:30H, 12:30H, 16:30H, 19:30H, 23:30H, but can be more frequent if situation changes)

Contains weather information for south China coastal waters:

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/sccw.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/sccwc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

[Content: refer to the South China Coastal Waters bulletin]

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

[Content: refer to the South China Coastal Waters bulletin]

3.4 UV Index Forecast -- 紫外線指數預測 (updated once a day, 17:00H, but



will be updated as necessary in case of weather changes, till 10:00H the next day.)

Contains forecast of maximum UV Index for tomorrow:

English: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/uvfcst_textonly.htm

Chinese: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/forecast/uvfcstc_textonly.htm

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

THE MAXIMUM UV INDEX FOR DD Month (Weekday) WILL BE ABOUT X. The intensity of UV radiation will be Y.

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

X 月 X 日〔星期 X〕的最高紫外線指數大約是 X，強度屬於 Y。

4.1 Tropical Cyclone Warning Bulletin -- 熱帶氣旋警告 (updated hourly (HH) when TC signal is in force)

English: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/tc/tc_txt.htm

Chinese: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/tc/tcc_txt.htm

4.2 Tropical Cyclone Position -- 熱帶氣旋位置 (updated once every 3 hours whenever a tropical cyclone warning signal is in force)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/tc/tcp.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/tc/tcpc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Forecast Positions and Intensities

Date time	Position	Classification	Maximum sustained wind
HH:MM HKT DD Month YYYY XX.X N XXX.X E	Classification		X km/hour

Current Position and Intensity

Date time	Position	Classification	Maximum sustained wind
HH:MM HKT DD Month YYYY XX.X N XXX.X E	Classification		X km/hour

(available only after TC Signal No.3 or higher is issued and will be updated hourly)

Past Positions and Intensities

Date time	Position	Classification	Maximum sustained wind
HH:00 HKT DD Month YYYY XX.X N XXX.X E	Classification		X km/hour

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

預測的位置和強度

香港時間	位置	熱帶氣旋類別	最高持續風速
YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 XX.X N XXX.X E	Classification		每小時 X 公里

現時的位置和強度

香港時間	位置	熱帶氣旋類別	最高持續風速
YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 XX.X N XXX.X E	Classification		每小時 X 公里

(available only after TC Signal No.3 or higher is issued and will be updated hourly)

過去的位置和強度

香港時間	位置	熱帶氣旋類別	最高持續風速
YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 XX.X N XXX.X E	Classification		每小時 X 公里

4.3 Tropical Cyclone Warning for Shipping --為船舶提供的熱帶氣旋警告

(updated once every 3 hours around 01:00H, 04:00H, 07:00H, 10:00H, 13:00H, 16:00H, 19:00H, and 22:00H whenever a tropical cyclone is located within 10-30°N, 105-125°E)

English: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/tc/tcw_ship.htm

Chinese: http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/tc/tcw_shipc.thm

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

5.1 Information on Weather of Cities in China -- 中國各大城市天氣預測

(updated once a day, 21:50H)



English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/iwcc.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/iwccc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

5.2 Weather Forecast for Major Cities in Guangdong -- 廣東省主要城市 天氣預報 (updated twice a day, 07:15H, 18:15H)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/wfg.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/wfgc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Chinese version:

香港天文台在 YYYY 於 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

5.3 Weather Forecast for Tourist Attractions in Guangdong -- 廣東省旅遊 點天氣預報 (updated once a day, 18:30H)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/wfgt.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/wfgtc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY

Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

5.4 World Weather Information -- 世界各大城市天氣消息 (updated four times a day, 06:00H., 10:00H., 18:00H, 22:00H)

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/wwf.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/textonly/other/wwfc.htm>

English version:

Bulletin updated at HH:MM HKT DD/MMM/YYYY



Chinese version:

香港天文台於 YYYY 年 MM 月 DD 日 HH 時 MM 分發出之天氣報告

6.1 Press Releases -- 新聞發佈 (updated at any time)

Hyperlinks to HKO's web site:

English: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/wxinfo/news/index.htm>

Chinese: <http://www.weather.gov.hk/wxinfo/news/indexc.htm>

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(Please note that the updated time listed above is the scheduled time of issuance, the time of updating at the web site may be several minutes later than the issuance time)