

Strong Monsoon Signal

The Strong Monsoon Signal

The Strong Monsoon Signal is issued when winds associated with the summer or winter monsoon are blowing in excess of or are expected to exceed 40 kilometres per hour near sea level anywhere in Hong Kong. Winter monsoon normally blows from the north or from the east while summer monsoon typically blows from the southwest. In very exposed places, monsoon winds may exceed 70 kilometres per hour.

Points to note

1. When the Strong Monsoon Signal is in force, the announcement is always accompanied by an indication of the direction from which winds are expected to blow. It is important to take note of this wind direction and you should be aware that local topography, or, the presence of buildings nearby sometimes modifies the airflow substantially, making it exceptionally gusty in very localised areas.
2. If you are not well sheltered from the monsoon, precautions should be taken against strong gusty winds. Flower pots and other objects likely to be blown away should be taken indoors. Engineers, architects and contractors should ensure that all scaffoldings, hoardings and temporary structures are secured.
3. If necessary, owners of small craft should make arrangements for the safety of their boats and make sure that all deck fittings are firmly fastened.
4. Those engaging in water sports or operations at sea should take special care against high winds and rough sea conditions. Rough seas and swells may affect the coast. You should beware of the risk and stay away from the shoreline for safety sake.
5. Drivers using highways and flyovers should be particularly alert to strong gusts.
6. You should take note of the latest weather information and related announcements broadcast on radio and TV and given in the Observatory's Internet websites (<https://www.weather.gov.hk> or <https://www.hko.gov.hk>).