

# International Classification System

(from SnowCrystals.com)

	CODE	GRAPHIC SYMBOL	TYPICAL FORMS				TERM
Type of particle (F)	1					Plates	
	2					Stellar crystals	
	3					Columns	
	4					Needles	
	5					Spatial dendrites	
	6					Capped columns	
	7					Irregular particles	
	8					Graupel (soft hail)	
	9					Ice pellets (Am. sleet)	
	0					Hail	
Additional characteristics	<i>m</i>	*					Broken
	<i>r</i>	*					Rimed
	<i>f</i>	(*)					Flake
	<i>w</i>	*					Wet
Size of particle (D)	<i>a</i>	0-0.49 mm					Very small
	<i>b</i>	0.5-0.99 mm					Small
	<i>c</i>	1.0-1.99 mm					Medium
	<i>d</i>	2.0-3.99 mm					Large
	<i>e</i>	4.0 mm or larger					Very large

The above classification system provides a shorthand notation for describing falling snow. A large stellar crystal would be **2fe**. A medium-sized rimed plate would be written **1rc**.