

# METEOROLOGY

Warm Front

# Warm Front

A warm front occurs when a warm mass of air advances and replaces a body of colder air.

## ➤ Rate of Movement

Warm fronts move slowly, typically 10 to 25 miles per hour (mph)

## ➤ Frontal Slope

The warm air slides over the top of the cooler air and gradually pushes it out of the area. The slope is shallow when compared to a cold front.

## ➤ Cloud Formation

Warm fronts contain warm air that often has very high humidity. As the warm air is lifted, the temperature drops and condensation occurs.

## ➤ Type of Precipitation

Often produces wide-spread nimbostratus precipitation near front

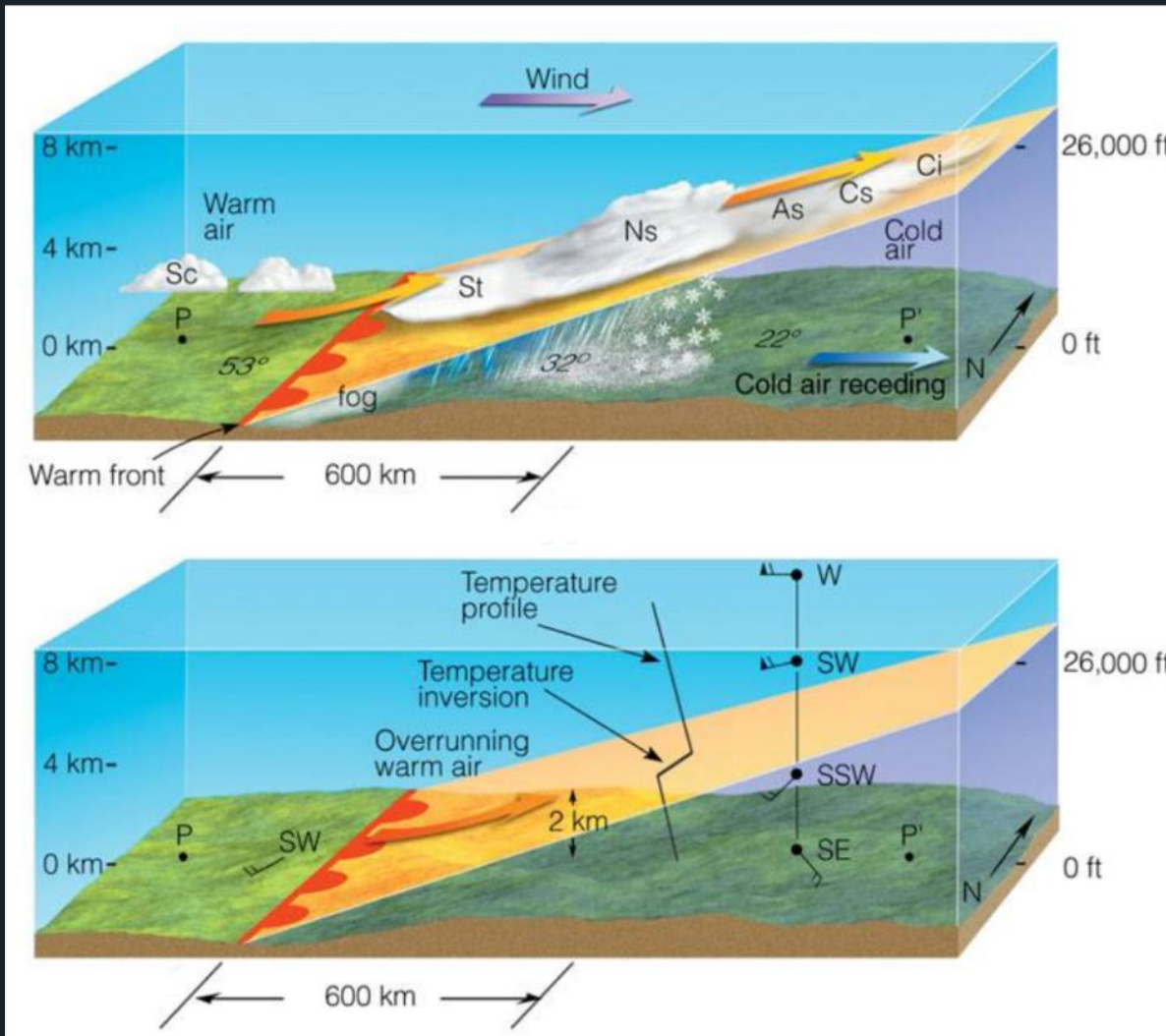


Image courtesy of: Thomson Higher Education

# Weather Associated with a Passing Warm Front

	Before Passing	While Passing	After Passing
<b>Winds</b>	south-southeast	variable	south-southwest
<b>Temperature</b>	cool-cold, slow warming	steady rise	warmer, then steady
<b>Pressure</b>	usually falling	leveling off	slight rise, followed by fall
<b>Clouds</b>	in this order: Ci, Cs, As, Ns, St, and fog; occasionally Cb in summer	stratus-type	clearing with scattered Sc; occasionally Cb in summer
<b>Precipitation</b>	light-to-moderate rain, snow, sleet, or drizzle	drizzle or none	usually none, sometimes light rain or showers
<b>Visibility</b>	poor	poor, but improving	fair in haze
<b>Dew Point</b>	steady rise	steady	rise, then steady