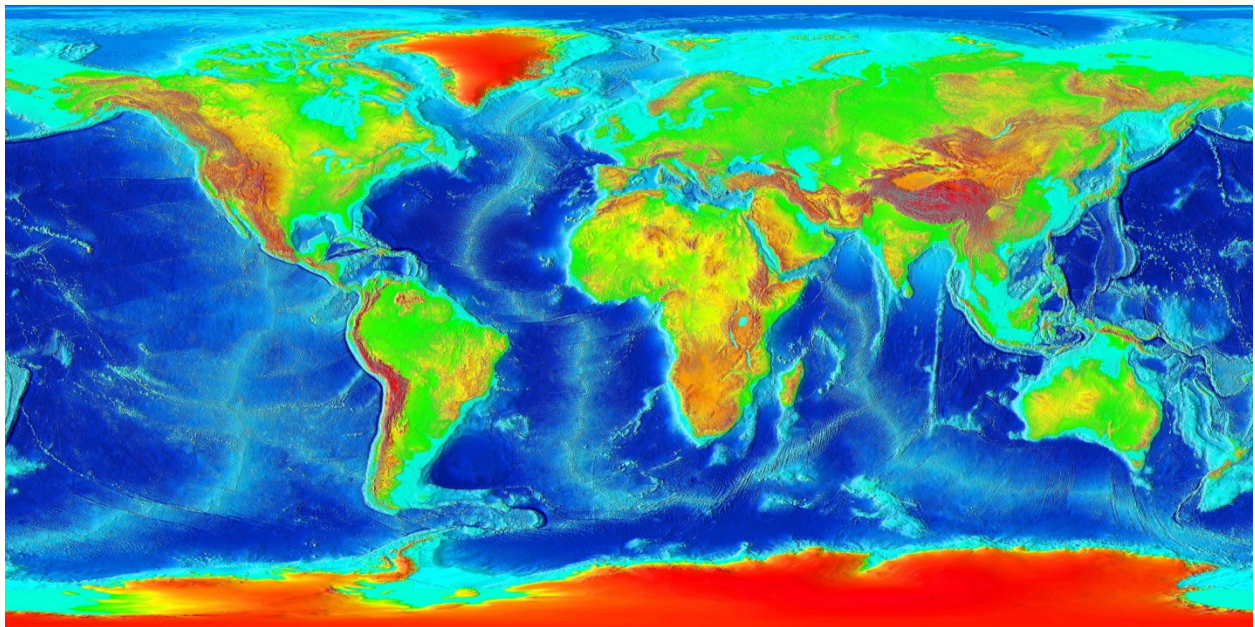




Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification Category Descriptions



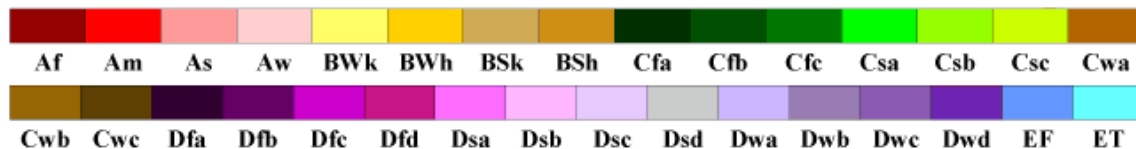
Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification Category Descriptions



There are five major types of climate classification: **Equatorial**, **Arid**, **Warm Temperate**, **Snow**, and **Polar**. Each type can then be further classified by precipitation and temperature conditions. This results in 31 different climate classifications. Here we provide a general description of each, color coded to the legend below and the Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification Google Earth kml file.

World Map of Köppen–Geiger Climate Classification

updated with CRU TS 2.1 temperature and VASCLimO v1.1 precipitation data 1951 to 2000



Equatorial rainforest, fully humid (Af): A climate which sees all twelve months with very warm temperatures and a lot of rainfall.

Equatorial monsoon (Am): Area characterized by all twelve months having a mean temperature of greater than or equal to 18°C and a mean annual accumulated precipitation greater than or equal to $25 \cdot (100 - P_{\min})$ where P_{\min} is the month with the least amount of precipitation, in mm.

Equatorial savannah with dry summer (As): Area characterized by all twelve months having a mean temperature greater than or equal to 18°C and a summer month with precipitation less than 60 mm.

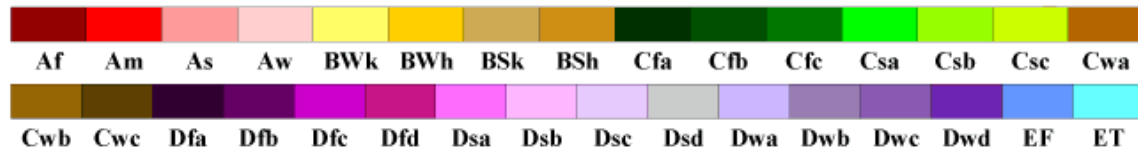
Equatorial savannah with dry winter (Aw): Area characterized by all twelve months having a mean temperature greater than or equal to 18°C and a winter month with precipitation less than 60 mm.

Arid desert cold (BWk): A climate whose mean annual temperature is less than 18°C and is too dry to support most plants.

Arid desert hot (BWh): A climate whose mean annual temperature is greater than or equal to 18°C and is too dry to support most plants.

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Arid Steppe cold (*BSk*): A climate whose mean annual temperature is less than 18°C and is too dry to support a forest, but not dry enough to be a desert, usually consisting of grassland plains.

Arid Steppe hot (*BSh*): A climate whose mean annual temperature is greater than or equal to 18°C and is too dry to support a forest, but not dry enough to be a desert, usually consisting of grassland plains.

Warm temperate fully humid with hot summer (*Cfa*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than +18°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year. This climate is usually found inland in the interior of continents or on their east coast, usually between 25° and 35° latitude.

Warm temperate fully humid with warm summer (*Cfb*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than +18°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year. This climate is usually found inland in the interior of continents or on their east coast, usually between 35° and 45° latitude.

Warm temperate fully humid with cool summer (*Cfc*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than +18°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year. This climate is usually found inland in the interior of continents or on their east coast, usually between 45° and 55° latitude, but may extend to 65° latitude.

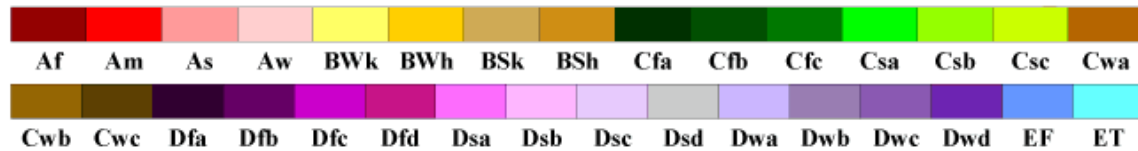
Warm temperate with dry, hot summer (*Csa*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than +18°C and summers are dry and hot. This climate is usually found inland on western sides of continents.

Warm temperate with dry, warm summer (*Csb*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than +18°C and summers are dry and mild. This climate is usually found closer to the coast on western sides of continents.

Warm temperate with dry, cool summer (*Csc*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than +18°C and summers are dry and cool. This climate is usually found on the western coast of continents, where they are influenced by cold ocean currents.

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Warm temperate with dry winter and hot summer (*Cwa*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than $+18^{\circ}\text{C}$ and dry winters. This climate is also characterized by hot, humid summers and is usually found on the interiors of continents or on their east coast.

Warm temperate with dry winter and warm summer (*Cwb*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than $+18^{\circ}\text{C}$ and a noticeable difference between the dry winters and rainy summers. This climate is usually found in the highlands of some tropical countries.

Warm temperate with dry winter and cool summer (*Cwc*): A climate where the coldest month is warmer than -3°C but colder than $+18^{\circ}\text{C}$ and a noticeable difference between the dry winters and rainy summers. This climate is usually found in the highest altitudes of some tropical countries.

Snow with fully humid hot summer (*Dfa*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year, and summers can get very hot. This climate is usually found between 35° and 45° latitude.

Snow fully humid warm summer (*Dfb*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year. This climate is usually found between 45° and 55° latitude, but may extend up to 60° latitude.

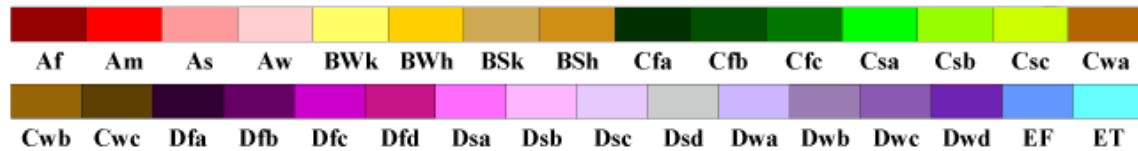
Snow fully humid cool summer (*Dfc*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year. This climate is found even further toward the poles, usually found between 45° and 55° latitude, but may extend up to 60° latitude.

Snow fully humid extremely continental (*Dfd*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and precipitation is generally the same throughout the year. This climate is found only in eastern Siberia and is notable for its extreme winter cold.

Snow dry, hot summer (*Dsa*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and summers are dry and hot. This climate is usually at high elevations near locations that are warm temperate with dry, hot summers.

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Snow dry, warm summer (*Dsb*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and summers are dry and warm. This climate is usually at even higher elevations near locations that are warm temperate with dry, hot summers.

Snow dry, cool summer (*Dsc*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and summers are dry and warm. This climate is usually at the highest elevations near locations that are warm temperate with dry, hot summers.

Snow dry summer extremely continental (*Dsd*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C and winter is wetter than summer. This climate is found only in eastern Siberia and is notable for its extreme winter cold.

Snow dry winter hot summer (*Dwa*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C with dry winters and wet summers. This climate is usually found in eastern Asia between 35° and 45° latitude.

Snow dry winter warm summer (*Dwb*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C with dry winters and wet summers. This climate is usually found in eastern Asia between 45° and 55° latitude but may extend up to 60° latitude.

Snow dry winter cool summer (*Dwc*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C with dry winters and wet summers. This climate is usually found in eastern Asia between 55° and 65° latitude but may extend up to 70° latitude.

Snow dry winter extremely continental (*Dwd*): A climate where there is at least one month colder than -3°C with dry winters and wet summers. This climate is found only in eastern Siberia and is notable for its extreme winter cold.

Polar frost (*EF*): A climate where each month is colder than 10°C , but the warmest month is still warmer than 0°C . This climate is generally found on the northern edges of Northern Hemisphere continents and surrounding islands.

Polar tundra (*ET*): A climate where each month is colder than 0°C . This climate is generally found in Antarctica and inner Greenland.