

## Clouds 2

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In the sky above us, different cloud formations are occurring throughout the days and nights. Changes in the climate, the city below and the environment around us cause the weather to behave in certain ways and different clouds form. While traveling across the country, one will come across several natural formations and experience different types of formations of clouds above. It was during my travels to Texas from Colorado that I saw many different cloud formations and compared the different types.

The image of the clouds that were taken were of a Cirrocumulus stratiformis in the form of both undulated and cells as the upper layer, and a few altocumulus clouds below just south west of Pueblo, CO. Cirrocumulus clouds are a “thin white patch, sheet or layer of cloud of shading, composed of very small elements in the form of grains, ripples, etc.” These formations usually occur between 5 and 13 km above the earth’s surface. These clouds are primarily composed of ice particles, also as the cloud ages; the clouds begin to look “stringy” and “wispy”. The clouds below, altocumulus, have a thin fluffy cotton look to them. These clouds usually occur 2 – 7 km above the earth’s surface. Looking at the upper level of clouds that have been formed, it looks as if an object was drawn through the layer of clouds and created vortexes within the cloud layer. During this day I do not recall any winds occurring and the temperature was approximately 60<sup>0</sup>F through the evening.

This photograph was taken on Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of March at approximately 5 pm, just south of Pueblo, CO while pointing to the west. The sun was the main light source in this image. The sun is noticeable just below the image. With the type of clouds that are in the sky, the sun is able to illuminate them by shining through them.

The camera used was a digital NIKON E3100.

- The image size is 2048x1536 pixels
- Resolution is 300 x 300 dpi.
- Bit depth is 24.
- Focal Length = F/5.6
- Exposure Time 1/1024 sec.
- ISO Speed = ISO-100

Looking at this picture and the rest that I had taken, I really favored what was created in the sky at this particular time. The vortexes that captured my interests in this image have a soft feel to them. It reminds me of the phenomena that occurs when a line is drawn through a liquid and the vortexes that occur on the sides of the line. I found it interesting that the same effects that can be created in a small basin in a lab are happening in the skies. With this image I would have rather that the lower altocumulus clouds not been present and I had a better angle of the clouds being captured, however we were in a moving car and unable to stop at the moment.