

A practical guide for winds

Direction:

- If above the boundary layer, then air-parcels move like cars — they stay in their lanes (follow isobars or height contours, straight & curved).
- In the N. Hemisphere, drive in your lane so that Low pressure is to your left (opposite in S. Hem.).
- If in the boundary layer, cross the isobars at a small angle towards lower pressure (gradually change lanes).

Relative Speed (effects below are compounded):

- Faster (geostrophic winds) where isobars are packed closer together.
- Slower (than geostrophic) around Lows. Faster around Highs.
- Slower if in the boundary layer.