

12-8 What is a front? (Pages 294-295)

*Air Masses
FRONT
Air Mass*

Front: boundary between two air masses of different densities

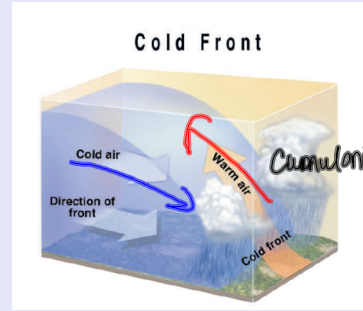
How do air masses travel?

West to east

What do fronts bring, just like air masses bring?

Change in weather

Cold Front: cold air mass pushes under a warm air mass

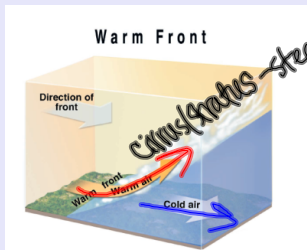


Cumulonimbus - rain, winds

Label:

- Cold air mass pushing over warm air mass
- Cold air is denser than warm
- Cumulonimbus cloud - rain, winds
- Cold air mass moves in

Warm Front: warm air mass pushes over a cold air mass



Cirrus/Stratus - steady rain

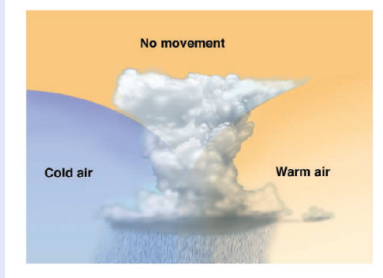
Label

- Warm air mass pushes over cold air mass
- Warm air rises
- Cirrus and stratus clouds - precipitation
- Warm air mass moves in

Stationary Fronts

- cold and warm air masses remain stationary
- little change in weather

Stationary Front



Occluded Fronts

Cold Warm Cold

- warm air mass between two cooler air masses
- cooler air masses push up warm air mass and mix
- makes temperature cool, water vapor condenses, and weather is cloudy/rainy/snowy
- most complex weather results

Occluded Front

