

Color by Number: Radar Image

Meteorologists study weather radar images to monitor where and how much it is going to rain. These images are constantly updated and track everything from everyday storms to large hurricanes.

Use the legend below as a code for coloring in the radar image on the next page:

Radar Map Legend

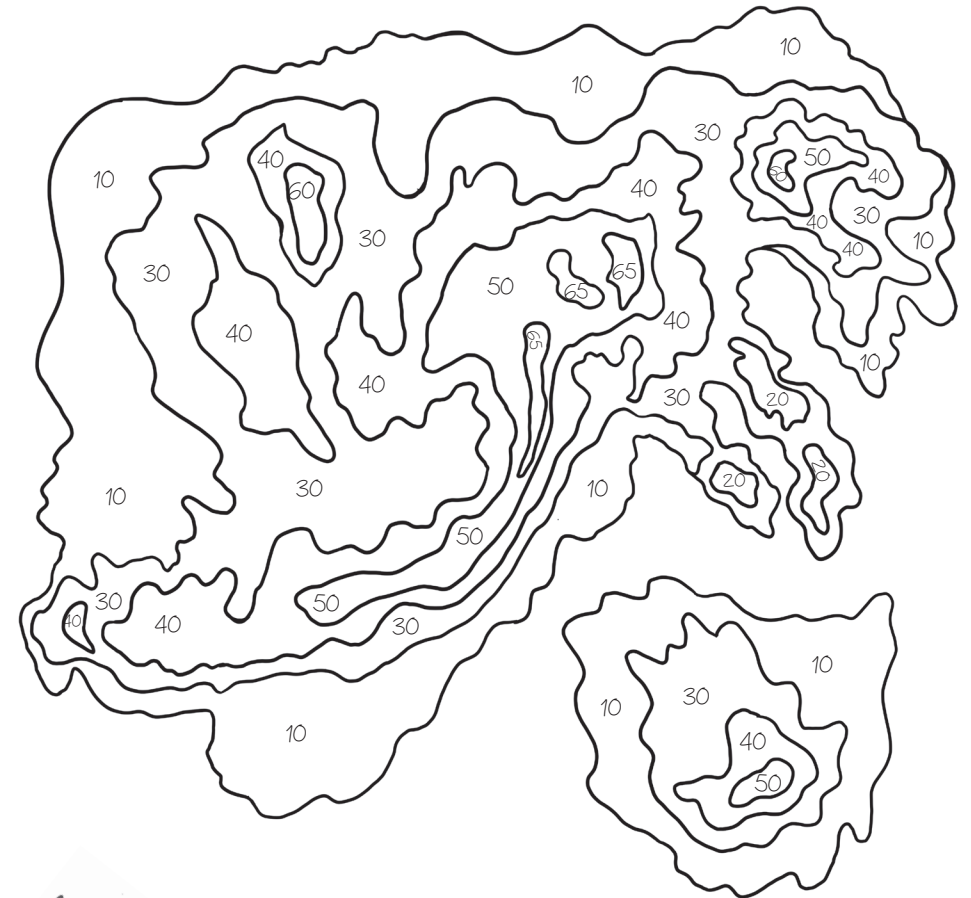
dBZ	Rainrate (inches / hour)	Color to Use
65+	16+	Bright Pink
60	8.00 - 14.00	Red
50	2.50 - 4.00	Orange
40	0.50 - 1.25	Yellow
30	0.10 - 0.25	Green
20	Trace	Bright Green
10	Light	Dark Blue
<10	Mist	Light Blue

→
This is the heaviest rain, and can mean hail!

What does dBZ mean?

dBZ is how precipitation (rain, snow, and hail) intensity is measured in radar images. The higher the dBZ number, the more intense the precipitation. In the case of a thunderstorm, the heaviest rain will be where the highest dBZ numbers are.

This radar image is from a thunderstorm. Tracking the heaviest rainfall is important for keeping everyone safe. Use the Radar Map Legend to match the color to the zones in the map. Once you've colored it in, determine where the rain will be most and least intense.



↖ During a local weather report, there will be a map of the area underneath the radar image. This shows meteorologists exactly where the worst rain is going to be, so they can warn residents in that area to stay indoors.