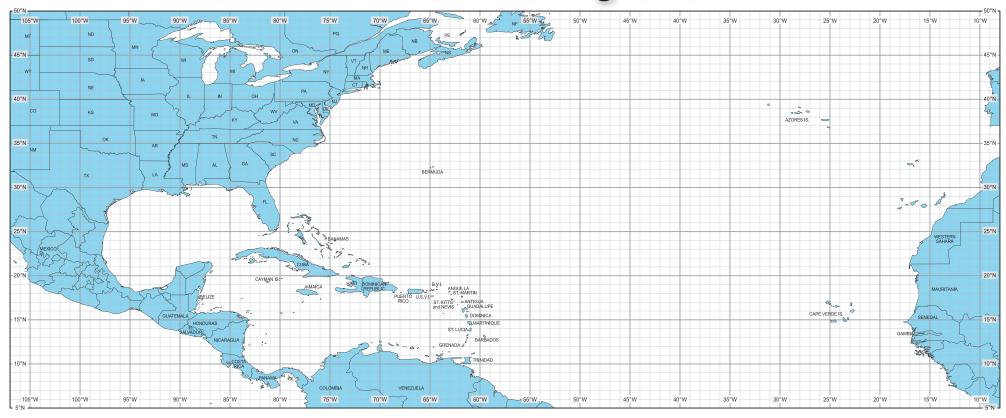
## Atlantic Basin Hurricane Tracking Chart



## **Plotting The Storms:**

- Monitor the National Hurricane Center for current tropical cyclone activity. Once an invest develops into a tropical depression, subtropical depression, or stronger, it's time to start tracking it.
- **2.** Plot the storm's first position.

To do this, find its geographic coordinates (latitude and longitude). (The positive (+) number, or the one followed by the letter "N," is latitude; the negative (-) number, or the one followed by the letter "W," is longitude.) Once you have the coordinates, move your pencil along the right edge of the chart to locate the latitude. Using a ruler to guide your hand in a straight line, move your pencil across horizontally from this point until you find the longitude. Draw a very small circle at the point where the latitude and longitude meet.

- 3. Label the storm by either writing its name next to the first plot point, or drawing a small box and writing the storm number inside
- **4.** Continue to track the storm by plotting its position twice daily, at 12 UTC and 00 UTC. Dots representing the 00 UTC position should

be filled in. Dots representing the 12 UTC position should be left unfilled.

- **5.** Label each 12 UTC plot point with the calendar day (i.e., 7 for the 7th).
- 6. Refer to the Hurricane Tracking Chart key below. Use your colored pencils to "connect the dots" with the appropriate colors and/or patterns.
- 7. When the storm dissipates, write its name or storm number (as instructed in step #3 above) next to its final plot point.
- 8. (Optional) You may also want to label the storm's minimum pressure. (This tells where the storm was at its strongest.) Find the minimum pressure value and the date and time it occurred. Write this value next to the corresponding section of the storm track, then draw an arrow between them.

Follow steps 1-8 for all storms forming during the season. If you miss a storm, visit the National Weather Service Website to access archived data:

## **Hurricane Tracking Chart Key**

Line Color	Storm Type	Pressure (mb)	Wind (mph)	Wind (knots)
Blue	Subtropical Depression	-	38 or less	33 or less
Light Blue	Subtropical Storm		39-73	34-63
Green	Tropical Depression (TD)	-	38 or less	33 or less
Yellow	Tropical Storm (TS)	980 +	39-73	34-63
Red	Hurricane (Cat 1)	980 or less	74-95	64-82
Pink	Hurricane (Cat 2)	965-980	96-110	83-95
Magenta	Major Hurricane (Cat 3)	945-965	111-129	96-112
Purple	Major Hurricane (Cat 4)	920-945	130-156	113-136
White	Major Hurricane (Cat 5)	920 or less	157 +	137 +
Green dashed ()	Wave/Low/Disturbance			
Black hatched (+++)	Extratropical Cyclone			



