

Make and read a climograph

The **climograph** is a graph that shows average temperatures and the total precipitation that have occurred in one place in a year.

Temperatures are represented on the left vertical axis.

Precipitation values are represented on the right vertical axis. The precipitation scale should be double that of temperatures. For example, at the same height of 10° C, the 20-mm- precipitation is located.

The months of the year are indicated on the horizontal axis.

The red line shows the evolution of monthly average temperatures.

Blue bars indicate the total monthly precipitation.

How to construct a climograph

1. Draw the horizontal axis and divide it into twelve equal parts, one for each month. Write the initials of the months below the line.
2. Draw the temperature axis. Divide it into parts of 5 or 10 degrees.
3. Draw the precipitation axis. Remember that the value of the precipitation must be double that of the temperature at the same height.
4. Move the values of the temperatures to the graph, drawing a point at the corresponding height in the centre of each month. When you finish, join all the points with a red line.
5. Move the values of the precipitation to the graph. The height of each bar will indicate the total monthly precipitation.

How to read a climograph?

1. Analyze the temperatures:
 - Calculate the annual average temperature. If it overtakes 20° C, it's a hot climate. If it's about 15° C, it's a temperate climate. And if temperatures are low, it's a cold climate.
 - Indicate which is the coldest month and the hottest month. Then, calculate the temperature variation. If it's above 15° C, it's high. And if it's below 15°, it's low.
2. Analyze the precipitation:
 - If total precipitations overtake 1000 mm, we say that they are abundant. If total precipitations are below 300 mm, we say that they are scarce.
 - If in a month the bar of the precipitations is below the line of the temperatures, we say that it's an arid month.