METAR / TAF Cheat Sheet (Quick Reference)

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METAR Format – Aviation Weather Observation

METAR VTBS 141000Z 21005KT 9999 FEW020 SCT050 BKN100 31/25 Q1010 NOSIG

Element	Value	Meaning
Report Type	METAR	Routine report
ICAO Location	VTBS	Suvarnabhumi Airport
Date/Time	141000Z	Day 14, 10:00 UTC
Wind	21005KT	From 210° at 5 knots
Visibility	9999	≥10 km
Clouds	FEW020 SCT050 BKN100	Few @ 2000 ft, Scattered @ 5000 ft, Broken @ 10,000 ft
Temp/Dew Point 31/25		Temp: 31°C, Dew Point: 25°C
Pressure	Q1010	Pressure: 1010 hPa
Trends	NOSIG	No significant changes expected

X TAF Format – Terminal Forecast

TAF VTBS 141100Z 1412/1512 22010KT 9999 SCT040 BECMG 1500/1502 25015KT

Element	Value	Meaning
Forecast Type	TAF	Terminal Aerodrome Forecast
ICAO Location	VTBS	Suvarnabhumi Airport
Issue Time	141100Z	Issued Day 14, 11:00 UTC
Valid Period	1412/1512	From Day 14, 12:00 UTC to Day 15, 12:00 UTC
Wind	22010KT	From 220° at 10 knots
Visibility	9999	≥10 km
Clouds	SCT040	Scattered clouds @ 4000 ft
Trend Forecast	BECMG 1500/1502 25015KT	Becoming 15:00–15:02 UTC: Wind from 250° at 15 knots

Decoder Tips

- Cloud Cover:
 - FEW = 1-2 oktas (few)
 - SCT = 3-4 oktas (scattered)
 - BKN = 5-7 oktas (broken)
 - OVC = 8 oktas (overcast)
- Common Abbreviations:
 - **NOSIG**: No significant change expected
 - **BECMG**: Gradual change expected
 - **TEMPO**: Temporary fluctuations
 - **PROB30/40**: Probability of event = 30% / 40%