

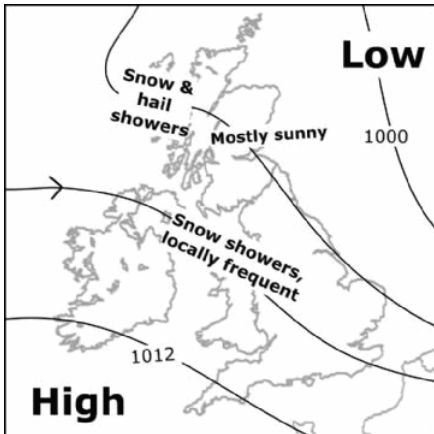
# The Northwest Highlands

Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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## General Summary for Friday, 22 November, 2024



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 22 November, 2024**

Cold northwesterly winds continue, strongest over England and Wales, bringing significant chill factor over higher terrain. Snow and hail showers focused near to western coasts, some moving inland, but generally dry central and eastern areas with sunshine. Snow cover most substantial in northwestern Scotland.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cold, but wind lessening. Showers of snow & hail becoming fewer.

## Detailed Forecast for Friday, 22 November, 2024

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Northwesterly 20-25mph early morning, easing to less than 15mph, becoming variable.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>At start moving around locally strenuous, wind may affect balance on ridges. Becoming small.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Snow showers becoming rare</b> Snow and hail showers, becoming rare, tending to become lighter, fewer and confined toward west coasts. Especially toward Great Glen often dry all day. Risk isolated lightning in heavier showers in morning.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Covered from time to time</b> Layers of low cloud may appear on various levels especially in and after showers, mostly on hills near the coast. Cloud unlikely below 600m. Nevertheless, hills most of the time clear.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>40% west coast, 60% inland/east.</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Morning clouds dissipating, allowing more sunshine, most frequent on south and southeastern hills. Visibility excellent, poor in local showers.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-3C, closer to 0C on & near Skye. Feeling like -10C directly in the stronger wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	400-600m near coasts, highest in west and on Skye. Most terrain frozen inland from dawn, partial thawing to 400m on sunlit slopes afternoon.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	<b>Saturday 23 November</b>	<b>Sunday 24 November</b>
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Southeasterly 60 to 85mph; ferocious gusts reaching lower slopes, particularly turbulent west of major mountain groups. <b>Severe conditions, any activity on the exposed ridges highly dangerous regardless of experience.</b>	Southwesterly 50 - 55mph across most areas with small protected pockets of lower winds. High peaks likely 60 - 65mph. <b>Difficulty maintaining stability, easily blown over by gusts or unsure footing. Significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Heavy snowfall, changing into rain</b> Dry start in north, but soon moderate to heavy snowfall starting on Cuillin, gradually extending northwards in morning. Snowfall fairly persistent, then an abrupt transition into rain, soonest near west coast.	<b>Morning showers, fading inland</b> Rain and showers likely on the coastal mountains and inland in the morning, drying out through the day except for coasts north of Skye. Sleet or snow occasionally on highest summits.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Hills covered extensively</b>  Hills fully covered, very likely all day. Perhaps early morning a few clear spots in the north and east, but soon getting covered.	<b>Tops in cloud, intermittent sun northeast.</b>  Potential for cloud breaks away from the coast, most likely in the far northeast. Mountain tops likely within cloud.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>10%, best early morning northeast</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast, zero visibility, whiteout. Perhaps just briefly brighter at the start of the day toward northeast.	Mostly cloudy along the central coast. Northwest and far north may see intermittent sun.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	Rising from -5C to +3C, or higher after dark.  Variable, at first all terrain frozen inland, 300-500m near coast. Rising erratically afternoon; above summits by evening.	2-3C, slightly warmer around dawn. Coastal mountains near Skye and in south slightly cooler. Feeling near -14C in wind.  Above the summits in the morning, dropping to 1,200m during the morning.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 23 November, 2024

A stormy weekend as a deep Atlantic low moves in, sustained gales from low elevations upward, hurricane-force over higher terrain. A period of heavy snowfall abruptly turning to rain from the southwest as a warm front arrives - the freezing level lifting above higher mountain summits by Saturday evening. By Sunday, Scottish tops back to freezing point. Next week, windy and showery on Monday, then higher pressure tries to expand over Britain bringing drier conditions, with temperatures nearer the seasonal average compared to the current very cold spell. Some occasional rain and milder air later in the week.

### Forecast issued at 16:43 on Thursday, 21 November, 2024

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering Scotland with the support of sportscotland. Forecasts are issued daily by 16:30 and are kept under review and amended as necessary. However, expected conditions can still change after issue. © Copyright Mountain Weather Information Service, 2024.