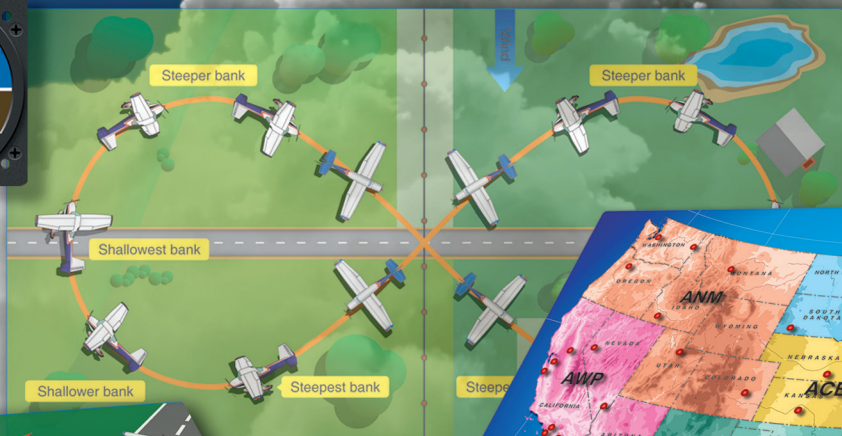


# Airplane Flying Handbook



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration





# Airplane Flying Handbook

2016

U.S. Department of Transportation  
**FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**  
Flight Standards Service



# Preface

The Airplane Flying Handbook provides basic knowledge that is essential for pilots. This handbook introduces basic pilot skills and knowledge that are essential for piloting airplanes. It provides information on transition to other airplanes and the operation of various airplane systems. It is developed by the Flight Standards Service, Airman Testing Standards Branch, in cooperation with various aviation educators and industry. This handbook is developed to assist student pilots learning to fly airplanes. It is also beneficial to pilots who wish to improve their flying proficiency and aeronautical knowledge, those pilots preparing for additional certificates or ratings, and flight instructors engaged in the instruction of both student and certificated pilots. It introduces the future pilot to the realm of flight and provides information and guidance in the performance of procedures and maneuvers required for pilot certification. Topics such as navigation and communication, meteorology, use of flight information publications, regulations, and aeronautical decision making are available in other Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) publications.

Occasionally the word “must” or similar language is used where the desired action is deemed critical. The use of such language is not intended to add to, interpret, or relieve a duty imposed by Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR).

It is essential for persons using this handbook to become familiar with and apply the pertinent parts of 14 CFR and the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM). The AIM is available online at [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov). The current Flight Standards Service airman training and testing material and learning statements for all airman certificates and ratings can be obtained from [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov).

This handbook supersedes FAA-H-8083-3A, Airplane Flying Handbook, dated 2004.

This handbook is available for download, in PDF format, from [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov).

This handbook is published by the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Airman Testing Standards Branch, AFS-630, P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

Comments regarding this publication should be sent, in email form, to the following address:

[AFS630comments@faa.gov](mailto:AFS630comments@faa.gov)

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John S. Duncan", is written over a horizontal line.

John S. Duncan  
Director, Flight Standards Service



# Acknowledgments

The Airplane Flying Handbook was produced by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) with the assistance of Safety Research Corporation of America. The FAA wishes to acknowledge the following contributors:

Mr. Shane Torgerson for imagery of the Sedona Airport (Chapter 1)

Mr. Robert Frola for imagery of an Evektor-Aerotechnik EV-97 SportStar Max (Chapter 16)

Additional appreciation is extended to the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee (GA JSC) and the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee's (ARAC) Airman Certification Standards (ACS) Working Group for their technical support and input.

