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Characteristics of Successful Pilots, VOR Checks, Hotel For Your Next Vacation, Something Free for CFIs

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Quote of the month

"A pilot who doesn't have any fear probably

Thank you for taking the time to read this safety message.

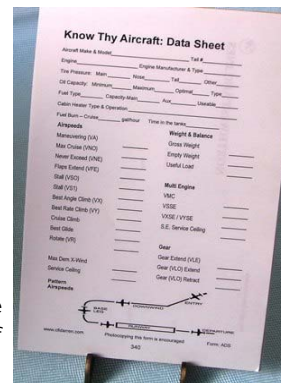
This issue has a FREE offer for CFIs that might be too good to pass up. Video of the month: Airbus aircraft of the future, 2050

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Thanks for your continued support,
Darren

Special Offer for CFIs - Something FREE*

With the more frequent incidents involving basic airmanship, no doubt this will become a special emphasis item for us to train our students. Things like load factor, stalling speed, and even good airport traffic patterns begin with a solid understanding of aircraft data. So here's a special offer, just for Flight Instructors. It's a pad of aircraft datasheets. Just rip one off and give it to your student who wants to solo, a BFR, or who is about to go into any checkride. Your student should be able to answer every item on this form, and if they can't, then you just dodged a bullet of sending an unprepared customer out in the world. Click the picture to the right to see what it looks like.



The item is FREE. Consider it a public service to the Flight Instructor community. The only thing I ask is that you cover the paypal transaction fee and cost of mailing it to you - \$2.70. I'm going to pick up the other costs (the cost of producing the product, the envelopes, mailing label, and driving it to the post office). They are not for sale, you won't find them in any pilot store. There are only 34 available,

isn't flying his plane to its maximum."
Jon McBride, astronaut

Hit reply and send me your favorite quote.

Flight Attendant Vocabulary Translator

Blue juice: The water in the lavatory toilet. "There's no blue juice in the lav."

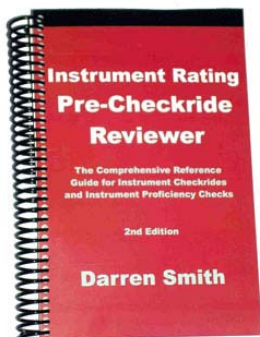
JUST POSTED



Endeavor's last landing posted in the Facebook photo album - 15 photos from the last mission of the Space Shuttle Endeavor

PRODUCTS

#1 Instrument Rating Checkride Guide



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Pilot's Radio Guide

and once they run out, they're gone.



You must be a flight instructor

Interesting Aircraft... the Firebird Spyplane



"Firebird is an adaptable system that makes it highly affordable because of the number of different missions it can accomplish during a single flight. It's a real game changer," Rick Crooks, Northrop Grumman's Firebird program manager, said in a press release. The propeller-powered aircraft can fly up to 30,000 feet, with an endurance time as long as 40 hours, Northrop said. Click the picture for an article from CNN.

VOR Checks

from [IFR Checkride Reviewer](#):

It's summertime, and people are flying more. Operations are up, more avgas is being bought, and you can be sure ramp checks are on the rise. Don't be caught arriving from an IFR flight without a current VOR check onboard.

You can update yourself in the AIM 1-1-6, and take a look at 91.171 which says:

Each person performing the check shall record the date, place, bearing error, and signature in an appropriate written log.

Permissible error:

- VOT 360 FR 180 TO, on airport, each VOR receiver $\pm 4^\circ$
- VOR checkpoint, on airport, each VOR receiver $\pm 4^\circ$
- Dual VOR check, $\pm 4^\circ$
- Ground reference point (from A/FD) against VOR radial, $\pm 6^\circ$

The A/FD has information about VOT and VOR checkpoints available at airports. Airports make great ground reference points, see the A/FD for exact locations (distance & radial) to perform the check.

Pilot's Radio Communications Guide

The comprehensive radio communications guide for VFR & IFR pilots.

Darren Smith, ATP, CFI/MEI

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Safer Approaches

And if that weren't enough trivia, here's a reminder about weather information available on VOR frequencies:

TWEB - Transcribed Weather Enroute Broadcast. Broadcast on select VOR frequencies. Designated by a "T" in the top corner of the navaid frequency box. Issued 3 times per day with maximum validity of 15 hours. Includes sky cover, visibility, winds, NOTAMS.

HIWAS - Hazardous In-flight Weather Advisory Service. Broadcast on select VOR frequencies. Designated by a "H" in the top corner of the navaid frequency box. Issued by FSS as necessary. Includes airmets, sigmets, convective sigmets, urgent pireps, and center weather advisories. In the future, HIWAS will offer TFR information.

'Crash Pad' Hostel

At the entrance to the Arlanda airport in Stockolm, Sweden, hostel entrepreneur Oscar Diös transformed a former Pan Am 747-200 jumbo jet into a modern and sophisticated hostel conveniently located just a 10 minute walk to the international airport's check-in terminals.



Although some of the original parts and signage remain, much of the interior of the plane was removed and replaced with 27 individual cabins of varying configurations. There are a total of nine bathrooms on the plane, some of them communal. Along with the first-class lounge located in the upper level cabin and furnished with the aircraft's original first-class seats, the Jumbo Stay Hostel offers guests (and visitors) an on-board café in the nose cone where pre-packaged meals are served "in-flight" style on small plastic trays by staff wearing vintage air-hostess uniforms.



Saving the Past for the Future

Around the country there are scores of aviation museums offering up a slice of history about flying. They have a story to share, interesting artifacts to show you, and even a restoration mission in progress. There are ways you can get involved whatever your interest level: from merely browsing their website to becoming a member. A



B-25C GP-2 displayed at the SC State Museum for the 50th Doolittle Raiders reunion in 1992

Safer Approaches

Use CANPA to perform safer, stabilized approaches

The table shows a grid of descent rates in feet per minute for various altitudes and distances. The title is 'Feet/Minute Descent Rate Table' and the subtitle is 'Approach Speed 90 Knots'.

Use the safest, airline-proven flying technique for non-precision approaches that minimizes aerodynamic surprises and virtually eliminates the possibility of Controlled Flight Into Terrain.

Darren Smith, ATP, CFI/MEI

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Learning IFR Charts

Learning IFR Enroute Charts

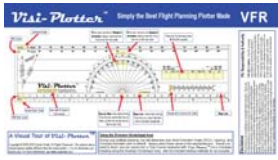
The quickest way to teach or learn IFR Enroute Chart Symbolology

Darren Smith, ATP, CFI/MEI

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Best VFR X/C Plotter



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Nip Holding Problems in the Bud

reader of this newsletter shared an interesting website: [South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation](#). They have an extensive website devoted to the B-25 -- check out their archived articles area.

They just wrapped up a week a week of festivities celebrating 100 Years of SC Aviation which featured Jimmy Doolittle's granddaughter as well as the pilot who flew Jimmy D out of China and several other B-25 and C-47 WWII flyers. Look around for your nearest aviation museum, there might be amazing stuff happening right in your back yard.

Characteristics of Successful Pilots

My last three students gave me new challenges as an instructor. All of them successfully passed their checkride for their respective ratings, however they needed a little extra training beyond the PTS. How does an individual determine they're never going to make it as a pilot? What happens if they just don't have the right stuff? It takes more than the skills taught in preparation for a rating: its true the PTS is not enough. So what is the magic ingredient that makes successful pilots? What is the special "stuff" that pilots need in order to make it. In one word: character. Over the next few bullets, I'll share with you the characteristics of successful pilots. Either it will guide you in terms of new insights or you will recognize these traits in other pilots you know.

1. Pilot in Command Authority. Successful pilots know when it comes time to take command, they do it. Without hesitation, the work gets done. They recognize that there is no one else to do it, and everything rests on their shoulders. They don't shrink to the task but rise up to meet it and accomplish the requirement. We're not talking about the arrogance all too common among pilots but confidence in their skills. The pilot is the ultimate command authority for the flight... the one responsible for the safe conduct of that flight. If anything goes wrong, passengers look to the pilot who must step up to the plate and take responsibility. They have a presence when necessary and are willing to disappear from the spotlight when not needed.

[read more at cfidarren.com >>](#)

NewsFeed

Interested in aviation news? Often reported before the mainstream media picks it up, you can find it at my daily news feed on Facebook. To get this on your facebook wall, click the logo and "Like" what you see. You'll find news shorts, pictures, and videos.



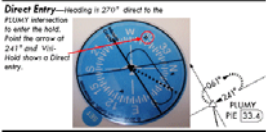
Personal Minimums Checklist

Safety Officials Still Investigating Cause of Deadly Westchester Plane Crash

Four people were killed in a fiery crash on Saturday in Armonk, NY. The well-respected flight instructor-pilot owned an art gallery in Piermont,



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Video of the Month



Airbus reveal 'plane of 2050'

NY. Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) are on site to investigate but have yet to determine what caused the Westchester County plane crash that killed four people.



Ralph Hicks, a senior air safety investigator at the NTSB, said in a press briefing on Sunday that the aircraft collided with trees when it was about 50 feet above the ground and burst into flames upon impact, with the resulting fire consuming the fuselage and cockpit.

The basic outline for aviation accident investigation comes down to the Personal Minimums Checklist. "We're looking at the pilot, the aircraft, and the environment in which the aircraft was operating," Hicks said.

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