
Traffic Patterns

Aviation Instructor's Lesson Plan

OBJECTIVE This lesson will introduce the student to the elements related to traffic patterns, which includes procedures at airports with and without operating control towers, prevention of runway incursions, collision avoidance, wake turbulence avoidance, and wind shear.

ELEMENTS

- Operations at airports with and without operating control towers
- Adherence to traffic pattern procedures, instructions, and rules
- How to maintain proper spacing from other traffic
- How to maintain the desired ground track
- Wind shear and wake turbulence avoidance procedures
- Orientation with the runway or landing area in use
- How to establish a final approach at an appropriate distance from the runway or landing area

COMMON ERRORS

- Failure to comply with traffic pattern instructions, procedures, and rules
- Improper correction for wind drift
- Inadequate spacing from other traffic
- Poor altitude or airspeed control

REFERENCE

The Flight Instructor's Kit

- Area of Operation 3, Task B: Traffic Patterns

COMPLETION STANDARDS The student should be able to demonstrate adequate knowledge of traffic patterns. The student should also be able to operate the aircraft within an airport traffic pattern while maintaining proper spacing from other aircraft and correcting for wind drift to maintain the proper ground track.