

# Runway Safety

Free Online Course

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/RunwaySafety](http://AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/RunwaySafety)



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**RUNWAY SAFETY**

**Begin Course**

Getting to and from the runway may sound like a simple task, but the reality is more complicated. In this course, we'll focus on practical steps you can take to avoid runway incursions and other incidents on the airport surface.

Satisfactory completion of this course qualifies toward [AOPA Accident Forgiveness](#) and [FAA WINGS](#).

WRITER: Brian Peterson PROJECT MANAGER: Kristen Seaman

This course made possible with the generous support of the **FAA Runway Safety Group**

An interactive course brought to you by the AOPA Air Safety Institute.

To access this course you will need to create a FREE AOPA web account. If you are already an AOPA Member or have an existing web account you can use your current login.

Both account types will automatically track your progress, and allow you to reprint certificates. On the ASI site, look for "My Transcript" which features a full list of available online courses, safety quizzes, video and more.

## What You'll Learn

- Getting familiar with your taxi route
- Identifying airport hot spot areas
- Locating taxiways and runways on the ground and from the air
- How to resist the lure of cockpit distractions
- Decoding runway signage, markings, and lighting
- Best practices at towered and non-towered airports
- Why proper communication matters
- Appropriate use of aircraft lights

Where am I, where am I going? Whether departing from or arriving at an airport, cockpit distractions, confusing airport layouts, and miscommunications can spell out trouble. Add surface vehicles and airport blind spots to the mix and you've got a complex environment in which to operate. Improve your situational awareness and communication habits with practical, down-to-earth guidance offered in this course.

Real-world scenarios and case studies underscore intricacies of airport surface operations.

View additional resources on the topic with our Safety Spotlight on Runway Safety [www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/RunwaySafety](http://www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/RunwaySafety)

# Weather Wise: VFR into IMC

Free Online Course

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/VFRintoIMC](http://AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/VFRintoIMC)



An interactive course brought to you by the Air Safety Institute (a division of the AOPA Foundation)



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Every year, low ceilings and poor visibility contribute to more accidents than all other weather phenomena combined. In this course, we'll look at how you can better recognize and avoid the dangers these conditions pose, both before and during flight.

Satisfactory completion of this course qualifies toward [AOPA Accident Forgiveness](#) and [FAA WINGS](#).



This course made possible by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service.

To access this course you will need to create a FREE AOPA web account. If you are already an AOPA Member or have an existing web account you can use your current login.

Both account types will automatically track your progress, and allow you to reprint certificates. On the ASI site, look for "My Transcript" which features a full list of available online courses, safety quizzes, video and more.

## What You'll Learn

- Why grounding is best when the weather is uncooperative
- Interpreting pressure systems and fronts to project weather
- Temperature and dewpoint subtleties
- Using preflight and inflight weather sources
- Why IFR pilots can get trapped
- How to recognize pilot and flight risk factors
- Contingency planning
- What to do when things go wrong

Don't get squeezed by low ceilings and poor visibility, which can trap an unsuspecting pilot quickly and jeopardize a safe outcome of the flight. This course covers the basic weather knowledge to avoid continued VFR flight into instrument meteorological conditions. It also tackles real-life issues that can influence your decision making in the future. Get the weather facts to guide you when the lines are blurred.

View additional resources on the topic with our Safety Spotlight on VFR into IMC

[www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/vfr-imc](http://www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/vfr-imc)

# IFR Insights: Cockpit Weather

Free Online Course

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/IFRCockpitWX](http://AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/IFRCockpitWX)



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## What You'll Learn

- How weather radar works
- Interpreting precipitation strength and gradient
- How composite and base reflectivity differ
- Identifying your datalink equipment reflectivity
- Using other radar sources for a second opinion
- How radar limitations affect you
- Using the big weather picture with datalink
- To make decisions for the best outcome of a flight

Uplift your datalink knowledge with practical advice on safely using datalink weather in flight. When you take this course, you'll see that datalink is not a crutch to make an un-flyable situation flyable, but rather an excellent tool supplementing the big weather picture to avoid dangerous weather. The course includes tutorials and interactive scenarios to connect datalink science with your knowledge of onboard avionics.

View additional resources on the topic with our Safety Spotlight on Thunderstorm Avoidance

[www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/TStormAvoidance](http://www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/TStormAvoidance)

# GA Security

Free Online Course

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/GASecurity](https://AirSafetyInstitute.org/courses/GASecurity)



An interactive course brought to you by the **AOPA Air Safety Institute**. Optimized for Tablet Computers

## GENERAL AVIATION SECURITY

SINCE 9/11, THE SECURITY OF GENERAL AVIATION (GA) AIRPORTS AND AIRCRAFT HAS RECEIVED SOME NEGATIVE ATTENTION FROM THE MEDIA.

This course offers flight schools, aircraft owners, renter pilots, FBOs, and flying clubs practical guidelines to help enhance GA security.

**AOPA's AIRPORT WATCH**

**AOPA AIR SAFETY INSTITUTE**  
Transportation Security Administration

*This course made possible by an estate gift from William Russell Moore and generous donations to the AOPA Foundation from pilots like you.*

[Begin Course >](#)

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Both account types will automatically track your progress, and allow you to reprint certificates. On the ASI site, look for "My Transcript" which features a full list of available online courses, safety quizzes, video and more.

## What You'll Learn

- How to prevent unauthorized access to hangars and aircraft
- Ways to protect and secure airport property
- How aircraft locks fit in
- Identifying and confirming suspicious activity
- How to report suspicious activity
- How to stay safe if you need to take action
- Your role in airport security
- Available security-related resources

As members of the general aviation community we all must help ensure the safety and security of our airports and aircraft. This course offers practical guidance to limit opportunities for criminals or potential terrorists seeking access to aircraft at airports, flight schools, and FBOs. Select one of four custom tracks (flight schools, aircraft owners, renter pilots, and FBOs and flying clubs) to fit your individual training needs.

View additional resources on the topic with our Safety Spotlight on Operations at the Airport

[www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/Airports](https://www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/Airports)



# Weather or Not: Thunderstorm Challenge

Free Online Course

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/ThunderstormChallenge](https://www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/ThunderstormChallenge)



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Both account types will automatically track your progress, and allow you to reprint certificates. On the ASI site, look for "My Transcript" which features a full list of available online courses, safety quizzes, video and more.

## What You'll Learn

- Making appropriate go/no-go decisions
- In-cockpit weather strategies
- Limitations of ATC weather radar
- Best practices for thunderstorm avoidance
- How to resist get-there-itis
- When diverting is a good option

Get ready to fire up your Cessna 172 for a VFR cross-country flight from New Jersey's Cape May County Airport to Erie, Pennsylvania. But be prepared to deal with pop-up thunderstorms, deteriorating weather, on-board and ATC radar realities, and fuel concerns. You'll make critical go/no-go decisions on this 300-nm route. If you're interested in experiencing where your decisions lead, then this course is for you. You'll even have the option to try different flight paths to see various decision outcomes.

View additional resources on the topic with our Safety Spotlight on Thunderstorm Avoidance

[www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/TStormAvoidance](https://www.AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/TStormAvoidance)

# Know Before You Go: Navigating Today's Airspace

Free Online Course

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/KnowBeforeYouGo](http://AirSafetyInstitute.org/KnowBeforeYouGo)



An interactive course brought to you by the AOPA Air Safety Institute. **Optimized for Tablet Computers**

## Know Before You Go

*Navigating Today's Airspace*

**Keep your pilot certificate (and yourself) safe.**

Whether you're planning a quick hop to a nearby strip or an epic cross-country voyage, the regulations—and common sense—require you to be well versed on any type of airspace that lies in your path.

ENABLE SOUND FOR THE BEST EXPERIENCE

**Begin Course >**

NOTE: Aeronautical charts in this course are provided for reference purpose only. Do not use this information for actual flights.

Satisfactory completion of this course qualifies toward AOPA Accident Forgiveness and FAA WINGS.  
Produced with the generous support of pilot donors like you.

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## What You'll Learn

- The ABCs of airspace
- How to decipher the chart and pick the best route
- Understanding boundaries of restricted and prohibited areas
- What's special about special-use airspace
- Working around temporary flight restriction (TFR) areas
- Performing a preflight briefing and route planning that counts
- Working with GPS and ATC
- Intercept procedures—what to do when busted

Can you fly through special-use airspace? Do you need an ATC clearance to enter a terminal radar service area? Alas, there are no signs in the sky for guidance. So you need the practical approach offered in this course to tackle airspace regulations and stay out of trouble when flying from point A to point B. Prepare to navigate basic up to the most complex airspace in the National Airspace System.

View additional resources on the topic with our Safety Spotlight on Flight Planning and Preflight

[AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/FlightPlanningAndPreflight](http://AirSafetyInstitute.org/spotlight/FlightPlanningAndPreflight)