

# How to improve your retention of aviation knowledge

18 November 2024

As a pilot, you need to keep your aviation knowledge sharp and up to date. But how can you make sure that you remember what you learn and apply it effectively in the cockpit? Here are some tips to help you improve your retention of aviation knowledge and enhance your performance as a pilot.

## **Improve and check your knowledge regularly**

One of the best ways to improve your retention of aviation knowledge is to review your Operator's SOPs and FCOMs - regularly. This will help you reinforce your understanding and recall the information when you need it. You can also use flashcards, online quizzes as those offered by [www.smartcockpit.com](http://www.smartcockpit.com), podcasts, or books to review the topics such as aerodynamics, weather, regulations, navigation, and aircraft systems.

## **Apply what you learn**

The best way to improve your retention of aviation knowledge is to apply what you learn in practice. This will help you consolidate your learning and improve your skills. You can also apply what you learn by teaching others, and sharing your experiences. This will help you deepen your knowledge and gain feedback from others.

## **Use multiple sources**

Another tip to improve your retention of aviation knowledge is to use multiple sources of information and learning methods. This will help you diversify your exposure and perspective and avoid relying on one single source. You can use multiple sources such as courses, workshops, industry conferences, books, magazines, websites, podcasts, videos, or blogs to learn about aviation topics. Reading, listening, watching, writing, or speaking will enhance your comprehension and retention. Prioritize consistency over cramming, and maintain a balance between theoretical and practical learning. Implementing these strategies fosters a solid foundation and sustained retention in aviation knowledge.

## **Test yourself**

The final tip to improve your retention of aviation knowledge is to test yourself frequently and honestly. This will help you assess your progress and identify your strengths and weaknesses. You can test yourself by taking online quizzes (and there are thousands quizzes in [www.smartcockpit.com](http://www.smartcockpit.com)!), using apps, or asking a friend or instructor to quiz you. You can also test yourself by challenging yourself with new scenarios, situations, or problems that require you to apply your aviation knowledge. Testing yourself will help you boost your confidence and motivation and prepare you for the real-world challenges of flying. It is your responsibility to continuously develop your knowledge and skills in aviation. Aviation is a field where continuous learning is not just beneficial - it's essential. Going beyond the minimum requirements and seeking additional educational opportunities can give you an edge in your field.