

Exercises

Practice using the phonetic alphabet

Read license plates, street signs, and business locations. Talk to a friend using the phonetic alphabet.

Bookmark these sites

Or download the corresponding apps.

AirNav has all of the information that is contained in the Chart Supplement. On the right hand side there is a picture of the runways and if you click on it you can download a detailed version of the runways and taxiways.

<https://www.airnav.com/airport/KSBP>

There are several flight tracking sites. FlightRadar24 is simple

<https://www.flightradar24.com/35.34,-120.47/10>

ADS-B Exchange has more nerdy stuff about the flights.

<https://globe.adsbexchange.com/?icao=ksbp>

You can listen to the ATIS, Ground, and Tower with LiveATC.net

https://www.liveatc.net/search/?icao=ksbp#google_vignette

If you want to look at aviation charts, SkyVector is a good place to start.

Put the airport you want the map centered on in the search box at the top left of the page.

This is the link for KSPB. Notice the it uses The latitude and longitude coordinates we discussed in class.

<https://skyvector.com/?ll=35.237244436113386,-120.64251708619449&chart=301&zoom=2>

You can get the same information about the airports as you get on AirNav by clicking on the Airports link,

<https://skyvector.com/>

AviationWeather has the METARs and TAFs we discussed in class.

<https://aviationweather.gov/data/metar/?decoded=1&ids=KSBP&taf=1>

Electronic Flight Bags

Most pilots use ForeFlight or Garmin Pilot to plan their flights. Those of us without sophisticated panels also use them to get frequencies, for situational awareness and for instrument approach charts. There is a free flight planner and tracker is called FltPlan Go that works connects to your GPS source and also works with simulators.

You can download it for free and then go to their website to sign up. It's not as nice as ForeFlight but it's fine and I think it talks to the Microsoft Flight Sim so you can track you flight and see other traffic..

<https://www.ftplan.com/>

Exercises

Practice following taxiing directions

Once you've mastered the alphabet, pull up some airport diagrams for smaller Class B (KSTL, KCLE, KPIT, KSAN) or larger Class C or D (KSNA, KONT, KVNY) and listen to the ground controllers direct airplanes. First review the names of the taxiways and runways so you are familiar with the letters and numbers they use. Write the clearances down and then trace them on the chart.

Practice listening to the ATIS

Open SkyVector and pick some airports with control towers, (They are colored blue or magenta) and have dashed or solid rings around them). Get the METAR and write it down, then listen to the ATIS on LiveATC. From the wind direction, predict which runway is in use. Everything should match except for the wind direction which differs by the magnetic declination and the remarks.

Once you've mastered listening to the ATIS and matching it up with the METAR, try listening to a few without reading the METAR first. It usually takes me a few times listening to it to be sure I have the numbers written down correctly.

Knowing the current time, can you figure out which time zone the airport is in from the reported ZULU time on the ATIS?

Can you figure out the approximate magnetic declination from the difference between the ATIS and the METAR? Find the isogonic line on the chart.

Explain how to get the ATIS and what it means to someone.

The best way to be sure you understand something is to explain it to someone else.

You can use this heading indicator to figure out wind direction or print a bunch from [this](#) document.



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