

CROSS COUNTRY FLIGHT PLANNING STEPS

1. Look up airport information for departure and arrival
 - Runways and lengths
 - TPA
 - Traffic Patterns
 - Communications
2. Obtain Enroute Weather:
 - TFR's
 - Metars
 - TAFs
 - Upper Winds
 - Surface analysis
 - Weather depiction
 - Notams
 - Airmets
 - Sigmets
 - Convective Sigmets
3. Plot course on VFR sectional chart
4. Determine checkpoints and measure leg lengths
5. Determine True Course (TC) for each leg
6. Choose cruise altitude based on:
 - Aircraft performance
 - Cloud heights
 - Upper winds
 - Obstacles
 - Restricted areas
 - Notams
 - Airspace
7. Determine using performance charts:
 - Top Of Climb (TOC)
 - Top Of Descent (TOD)
8. Record upper winds, direction and temperature on Flight Plan.
9. Use performance charts and record each on Flight Plan:
 - TAS
 - Power Percentage
 - Fuel Flow
 - RPM/MP settings.
10. Determine the wind correction angle (WCA)
11. Determine True Heading (TH), TC corrected for WCA
12. Determine Magnetic Variation
13. Determine Magnetic Heading (MH), TH corrected for Magnetic Variation
14. Determine Magnetic Deviation
15. Determine Compass Heading (CH), MH corrected for Magnetic Deviation
16. Determine Groundspeed (GS)
17. Determine and Record on Flight Plan
18. Estimated Time Enroute (ETE)
19. Complete Fuel Flow Calculations
20. Write down departure and destination frequencies
21. File flight plan with the Flight Service Station