

Gleim Commercial Pilot Syllabus

Sixth Edition, Second Printing

Updates

January 2026

NOTE: Sections with changes are indicated by a vertical bar in the left margin. Text that should be deleted is displayed with a line through it. New text is shown with blue underlined font.

If you are tested on any content not represented in our materials or this update, please share this information with Gleim so we can continue to provide the most complete test preparation experience possible. You can submit feedback at www.GleimAviation.com/questions. Thank you in advance for your help!

Notice to Air Missions was changed to Notice to Airmen throughout the text to reflect current FAA nomenclature.

Part I: Commercial Pilot Training Syllabus Airplane Single-Engine Land

Page 15, Commercial Pilot Syllabus Lesson Sequence and Times: These edits adjust the recommended time of Ground Lesson 11 and the time allowance for the end-of-course knowledge test according to the FAA Testing Matrix.

LESSON	Page	Flight								Ground
		Flight Training Dual	Flight Training Solo	Dual Cross-Country	Solo Cross-Country	Instrument	Night Dual	Night Solo	Complex/TAA Dual	Aeronautical Knowledge Training
STAGE TWO										
Ground 6 Aeromedical/ADM	30									2.5
Ground 7 Aviation Weather	31									3.0
Flight 18 Maneuvers Review	59	1.5				0.5				
Ground 8 Aviation Weather Services	32									3.0
Flight 19 Dual Cross-Country	60	4.0		4.0		1.5				
Flight 20 Night Flight--Local	61	1.5				0.5	1.5			
Ground 9 Navigation: Charts, Pubs., Flight Computers	33									3.0
Flight 21 Dual Night Cross-Country	62	3.0		3.0		1.0	3.0			
Flight 22 Solo Night--Local	63		1.5					1.5		
Ground 10 Navigation Systems	34									2.5
Flight 23 Solo Night Cross-Country	64		3.0		3.0			3.0		
Flight 24 Solo Cross-Country	65		3.0		3.0					
Flight 25 Instrument Review	66	1.5				1.5				
Flight 26 Solo Cross-Country	67		5.0		5.0					
Flight 27 Solo Cross-Country	68		5.0		5.0					
Flight 28 Solo Night--Local	69		1.5					1.5		

Flight 29 Solo Cross-Country	70		5.0		5.0					
Flight 30 Solo Cross-Country	71		5.0		5.0					
Ground 11 Flight Operations	35									~~2.0~~ 2.5
Flight 31 Maneuvers Review	72	1.5				0.5				
Flight 32 Solo Cross-Country	73		5.0		5.0					
Flight 33 Solo Cross-Country	74		7.0		7.0					
Ground Stage Two Knowledge Test	36									1.0
Ground End-of-Course Knowledge Test	36									~~3.0~~ 2.5
Flight 34 Stage Two Check	75	1.0				0.5				
STAGE TWO TOTALS		14.0	41.0	7.0	38.0	6.0	4.5	6.0	0.0	20.0

Part I: Commercial Pilot Ground Training Syllabus Airplane Single-Engine Land

Page 18, Ground Training Course Completion Standards: These edits adjust the recommended time of Ground Lesson 11 and the time allowance for the end-of-course knowledge test according to the FAA Testing Matrix.

Lesson	Topic	Min. Time in Hours
Stage One		
1	Airplanes and Aerodynamics	3.0
2	Airplane Instruments, Engines, and Systems	3.0
3	Airports, Air Traffic Control, and Airspace	2.0
4	Federal Aviation Regulations	3.0
5	Airplane Performance and Weight and Balance	3.0
	Stage One Knowledge Test	1.0
Stage Two		
6	Aeromedical Factors and Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM)	2.5
7	Aviation Weather	3.0
8	Aviation Weather Services	3.0
9	Navigation: Charts, Publications, Flight Computers	3.0
10	Navigation Systems	2.5
11	Flight Operations	~~2.0~~ 2.5
	Stage Two Knowledge Test	1.0
	End-of-Course Knowledge Test	~~3.0~~ 2.5
		35.0

Page 20, Ground Lesson 1: Airplanes and Aerodynamics: This edit updates the text reference.

Gleim Commercial Pilot FAA Knowledge Test Prep Study Unit 1 Contents	
1.1	~~Flaps~~ Flight Controls
1.2	Airplane Wings
1.3	Stalls
1.4	Spins
1.5	Lift and Drag
1.6	Ground Effect
1.7	Airplane Stability
1.8	Turns
1.9	Load Factor
1.10	Transonic and Supersonic Flight

Page 25, Stage Two Completion Standards: These edits adjust the recommended time of Ground Lesson 11 and the time allowance for the end-of-course knowledge test according to the FAA Testing Matrix.

Lesson	Topic	Min. Time
6	Aeromedical Factors and Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM)	2.5
7	Aviation Weather	3.0
8	Aviation Weather Services	3.0
9	Navigation: Charts, Publications, Flight Computers	3.0
10	Navigation Systems	2.5
11	Flight Operations	~~2.0~~ 2.5
	Stage Two Knowledge Test	1.0
	End-of-Course Knowledge Test	~~3.0~~ 2.5

Page 26, Ground Lesson 6: Aeromedical Factors and Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM):
These edits update the text references.

Gleim <i>Commercial Pilot FAA Knowledge Test Prep</i> Study Unit 6 Contents
6.1 Hypoxia and Alcohol, and Drug-Related Impairment 6.2 Hyperventilation 6.3 Spatial Disorientation 6.4 Pilot Vision 6.5 Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM) 6.6 Cabin Safety Hazards

Page 28, Ground Lesson 8: Aviation Weather Services: These edits update the text references. This section was previously edited in an April 2023 update.

Gleim <i>Pilot Handbook</i> Study Unit 8 Contents	Gleim <i>Commercial Pilot FAA Knowledge Test Prep</i> Study Unit 8 Contents
8.1 Flight Service Station (FSS) 8.2 Aviation Routine Weather Report (METAR) 8.3 ~~Pilot Weather Report (PIREP)~~ Aircraft Observations and Reports 8.4 Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) 8.5 Graphical Airman's Meteorological Advisory (G-AIRMET) 8.6 Graphical Forecasts for Aviation (GFA) 8.7 In-Flight Aviation Weather Advisories 8.8 Winds and Temperatures Aloft Forecast (FB) 8.9 Surface Analysis Chart 8.10 Radar Observations 8.11 Short-Range Surface Prognostic (PROG) Chart 8.12 Low-Level Significant Weather (SIGWX) Chart 8.13 Flight Service Online 8.14 Aviation Weather Resources on the Internet	8.1 Sources of Weather Information 8.2 Aviation Routine Weather Report (METAR) 8.3 Aircraft Observations and Pilot Reports 8.4 Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) 8.5 AIRMETs and SIGMETs 8.6 Surface Analysis Chart 8.7 Surface Prog Charts 8.8 Low-Level and High-Level Prognostic Charts 8.9 Other Weather Services

Page 31, Ground Lesson 11: Flight Operations: These edits update the text references. This section was previously edited in an April 2023 update.

Gleim <i>Commercial Pilot Flight Maneuvers</i> Reading Assignment	Study Unit	Gleim <i>Commercial Pilot FAA Knowledge Test Prep</i> Study Unit 11 Contents
<i>Section I: Preflight Preparation</i>		11.1 Flight Fundamentals
Weather Information	5	11.2 Engine Starting
Operation of Systems	9	~~11.2~~ 11.3 Taxiing
Human Factors	10	11.4 Takeoff and Climb
<i>Section II: Preflight Procedures</i>		~~11.3~~ 11.5 Landings
Taxiing	14	~~11.4~~ 11.6 Emergencies
<i>Section IV: Takeoffs, Landings, and Go-Arounds</i>		~~11.5~~ 11.7 Anti-Collision Light System
Normal Takeoff and Climb	18	~~11.6~~ 11.8 Cold Weather Operation
Normal Approach and Landing	19	~~11.7~~ 11.9 Turbulence
<i>Section V: Performance Maneuvers and Ground</i>		~~11.8~~ 11.10 Night Flying Operations
<i>Reference Maneuvers</i>		
Steep Turns	26	
Steep Spiral	27	
Chandelles	28	
Lazy Eights	29	
Eights on Pylons	30	
<i>Section VI: Navigation</i>		
Diversion	33	
<i>Section VIII: High Altitude Operations</i>		
Supplemental Oxygen	40	
Pressurization	41	
<i>Section IX: Emergency Operations</i>		
Emergency Descent	42	
Emergency Approach and Landing (Simulated)	43	
Systems and Equipment Malfunction s	44	
Emergency Equipment and Survival Gear	45	