

20 Rules of the Air

Pilot wisdom, re-told. Swipe for all 20.



Rule 1 of 20



Takeoff is optional. Landing is not.

Rule 2 of 20



**Nose down, the houses grow.
Nose up, they shrink. Hold the
pull too long and they grow
again.**

Rule 3 of 20



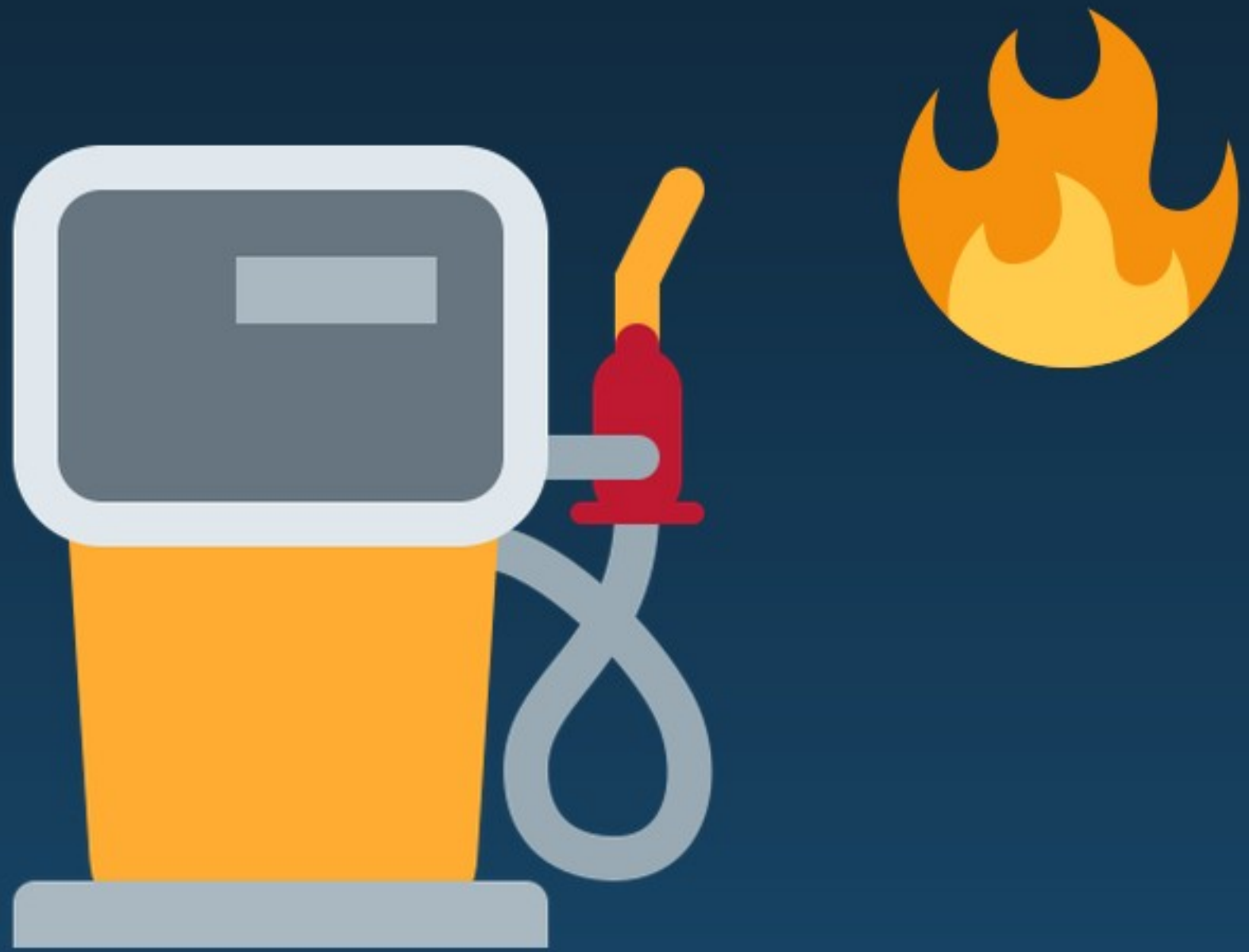
**Flying isn't the dangerous
part. Crashing is.**

Rule 4 of 20



**Better to be on the ground
wishing you were flying than
flying wishing you were on the
ground.**

Rule 5 of 20



You can only have too much fuel when the airplane is on fire.

Rule 6 of 20



The propeller is a big fan that keeps the pilot cool. When it stops, watch the pilot sweat.

Rule 7 of 20



**Not sure what to do? Hold
your altitude. Nobody has ever
hit the sky.**

Rule 8 of 20



**A good landing: you walk away.
A great landing: the plane flies
again.**

Rule 9 of 20



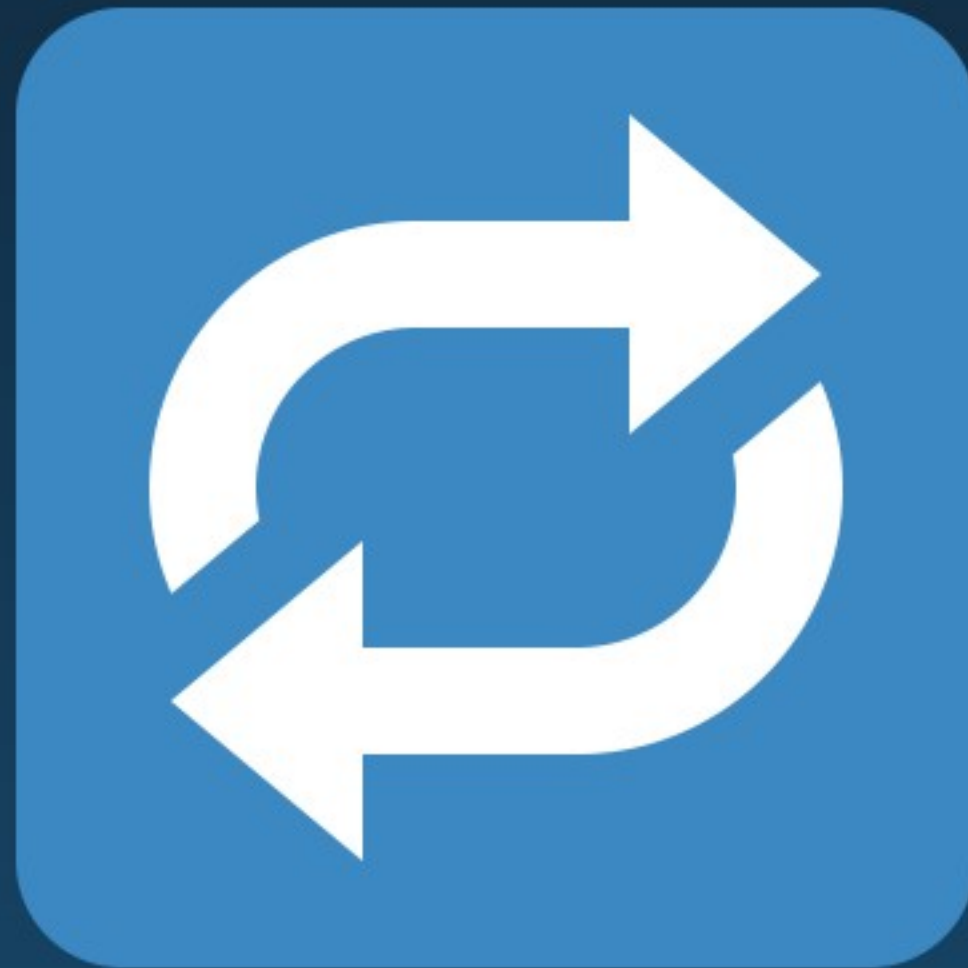
Learn from other pilots' mistakes. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Rule 10 of 20



**Stay out of the clouds.
Mountains hide in there, and
that silver lining may be
another airplane.**

Rule 11 of 20



**Keep your landings equal to
your takeoffs.**

Rule 12 of 20



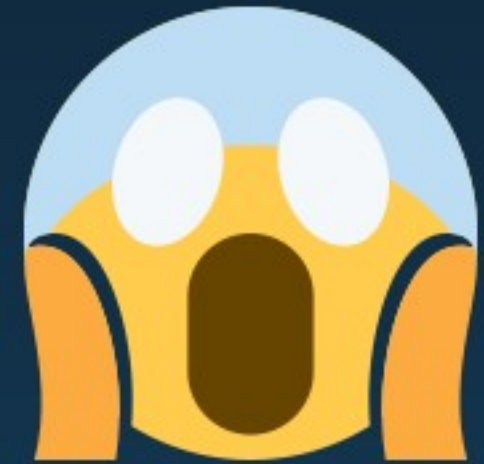
Smooth landings follow three simple rules. Nobody agrees what they are.

Rule 13 of 20



You start with a full bag of luck and an empty bag of experience. Fill the second before you drain the first.

Rule 14 of 20



Ground spinning past the window and panic in the cabin? Things are not going to plan.

Rule 15 of 20



**Aluminum at hundreds of mph
versus a ground moving at
zero. The ground is still
undefeated.**

Rule 16 of 20



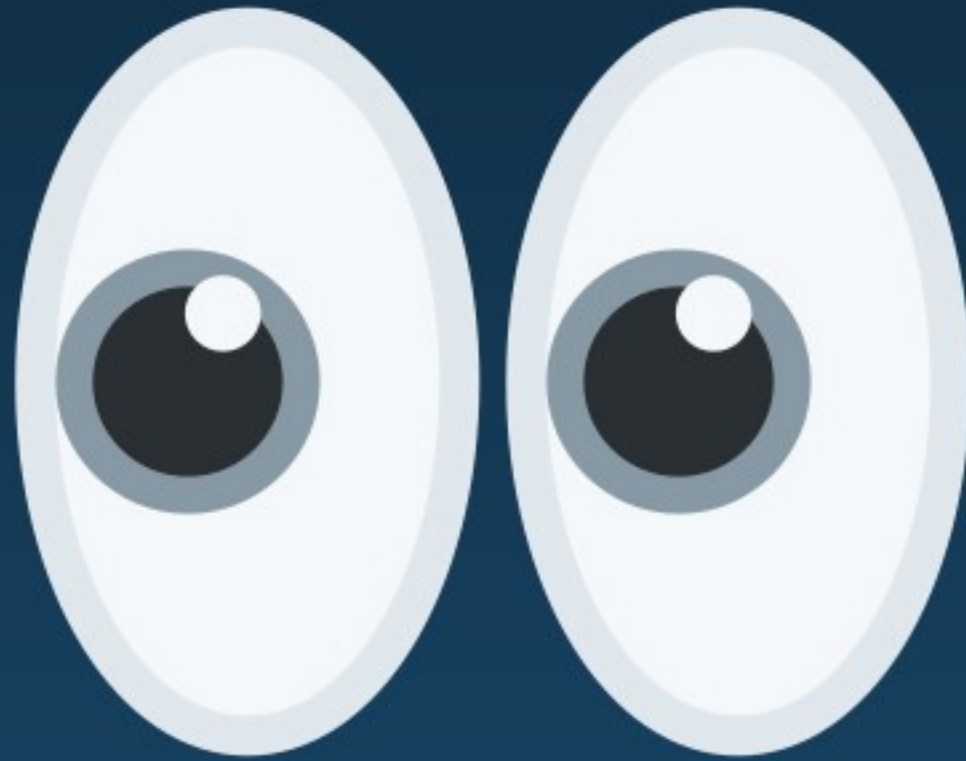
**Good judgment comes from
experience. Experience comes
from bad judgment.**

Rule 17 of 20



Keep the pointy end going forward as much as you can.

Rule 18 of 20



**Keep looking around. There's
always something you've
missed.**

Rule 19 of 20



**Gravity isn't just a good idea.
It's the law, and it can't be
repealed.**

Rule 20 of 20

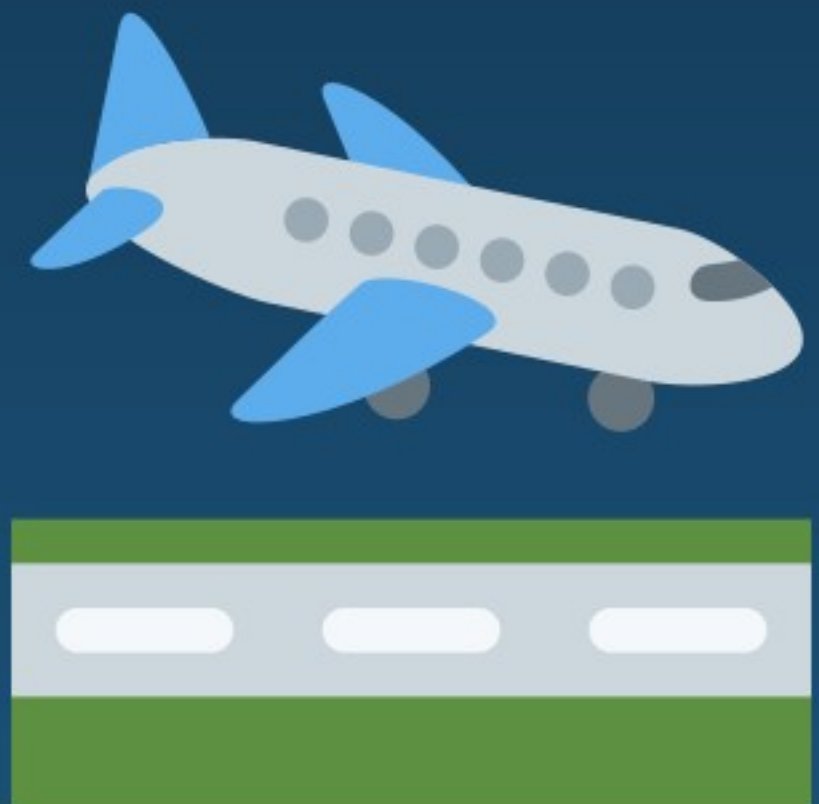


**Three useless things: altitude
above you, runway behind you,
and the last tenth of a second.**

Which rule have you lived by?

Trident Aviation LLC

Private charter broker and aircraft management, Dallas, TX



Re-told from an anonymous list of pilot rules seen at the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor.