

THE HOLD SHORT

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FLAT SPOTS ON TIRES: LET'S FIX THIS TOGETHER

Lately, we've seen a big increase in flat spots on airplane tires. The main culprit? Improper short-field landing technique. Let's break it down and fix it.

Short Field Technique: It's About the Approach

Short-field landings are all about a good setup and precise approach—not slamming the brakes the moment the wheels touch down. Airplanes aren't cars; braking too hard can cause serious tire damage, including costly flat spots and tube repairs.

Fly the Plane

Always remember to fly the plane, even during landing and rollout. Maintain control, use proper braking, and focus on hitting the right airspeeds and touchdown point. Aggressive braking won't win you points; it'll just wear out the tires.

Do Your Part

- **Inspect Tires Pre-Flight:** Roll the plane slightly and check for flat spots or damage.
- **Report Issues:** Notify us immediately if you see a problem.
- **Review Technique:** Practice good short-field landings with your instructor if needed.

Tires are expensive, and unnecessary wear affects everyone. Let's take care of our planes—and keep costs down—by flying smart and staying proactive. Fly safe!

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- **The Monday Night Study group** will start up again on January 16th.
- Watch for wing covers and frost. **DO NOT** put the flaps down with the wing covers on.
- In the event of frost formation on your aircraft, you and your CFI will be put to work in helping remove it. Please make sure you have a line technician or a CFI helping you with frost removal. Teamwork is crucial here!
- **Top of The Hour Reservations** - All GBA flights are scheduled on the hour, not the half-hour, to keep operations efficient.
- **Please report any anomalies before flying** and any issues or damage immediately after the flight to ensure safety and airworthiness.



**JESSE SURRY –
SOLO**

On your mark, get set go, go! Today's the day everyone, Jesse Surry—a student pilot who puts all of our cardio goals to shame—sprinted into a major milestone today and soloed in N328ME at KPSZ on runway 24! A man of many talents, Jesse juggles a marathon-worthy list of hobbies. From surfing, snowboarding, rock climbing, playing music, and of course running, Jesse is obviously incredibly driven and faces any challenge head on. While he's apparently mastered his land and sea legs, the next obvious move was to master his wings, and what better way to do that than by soling an airplane! Jesse has been working diligently to get to this point in his training, from grinding on his ground and flying to his heart's content, it's truly no surprise that Jesse reached this milestone and did so with style and precision. Let's give Jesse and his flight instructor, Shane Smith, who's gone the extra mile to pace Jesse's training, a huge congratulations on this amazing accomplishment! Jesse is undoubtedly sprinting toward the finish line of becoming a private pilot, and we're sure you'll see him again very soon!

The skateboard legend, Alan Chou, swapped halfpipes for flight paths this morning and soloed in N495SP at KSPZ on runway 24! From shredding rails to soaring the skies,

Alan's the kind of guy who makes everything look effortless. Whether it's on a skateboard or in the airplane, he's all about style, precision, and pushing limits. Alan isn't just a jack of all trades—he's the master of them, too... though he'd probably never admit it. In fact, he might not have even mentioned his solo if we hadn't asked him about it! Humble, genuine, and always pushing himself to new heights, that's just the kind of guy Alan is. Alan is one of the most genuine people you'll meet and it's truly a pleasure to see him reach this incredible milestone. Let's give Alan, and his instructor, James Morgan, a huge round of applause on this awesome accomplishment. When Alan's not flying like a fool, you can find him mastering a new move on his skateboard (no way?), drilling his ground school in, or making fun of Jenn for eating in the office... he's pretty cruel (just kidding 😊). Awesome work Alan! They sky's your new skatepark!



**ALAN CHOU –
SOLO**