

THE HOLD SHORT

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19JUL - 25JUL

USE THE TAXI DIAGRAM — YOUR FUTURE SELF (AND ATC) WILL THANK YOU

Spring 2026 will be here before we know it. Get ready for changes to taxiway designations at KRNO and other airports nationwide. That's right, those trusty taxiways you've memorized might be getting renamed, rerouted, or relabeled. So what does that mean for you?

It means it's time to get cozy with your taxi diagram. Now. Not later. Not "when it changes." Now. Whether you're just starting out or you've been flying patterns in your sleep, the Law of Primacy applies: what you learn first tends to stick. And if what you've learned is to taxi without referencing the diagram, well, that's a habit worth breaking.

Here's the thing:

- Taxi clearances aren't suggestions
- The airport diagram isn't optional
- "I think it's this way" is not situational awareness

Start treating every taxi like it's your checkride. Review the diagram before you call ground. Trace your route. Look at hold short lines, hotspots, and changes. Don't be the person fumbling to find the diagram after missing a turn at Alpha 4 (or another new taxiway name). Be the person who's already briefed, confident, and ready to roll (literally).

So, the next time your instructor says, "Use the diagram," don't take it personally, take it professionally. Study it now, use it always, and thank yourself later.

REMINDERS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

- Need some study buddies? Don't forget about Private Pilot Study Groups on the 1st and 3rd Monday, 6pm-8pm. Instrument Ground School help, those will be the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6pm-8pm.
- Check the parking map!! Make sure you know where to park your plane when you return.
- Do not add unnecessary oil. If it is at 6, you are good. Adding extra "just because" is a waste, and it just burns off. Check the POH for oil requirements.

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GBA STUDENTS TAKING FLIGHT



**TONY TORRES –
SOLO**

Good morning, everyone! While all of us were snuggled up in our beds enjoying the start of our Saturdays, Tony Torres was on a mission and arrived at the KRNO airport with his game face on. “Why?” you might be asking. Because today was the day that Tony would crush solo flight! Nearly dragging his instructor, Cory Kleidosty, out of his car at 5AM this morning, they did a couple laps and then the time came. Tony expertly flew the pattern here at KRNO (might I add with the most beautiful rectangular patterns) all by himself in N752DW on runway 17L!! When Tony isn’t studying and flying to his heart’s content, you can find him catching food in his mouth like an absolute pro (apparently, he has the reflexes of a cat!), banishing people for tickling him (seriously, don’t tickle him... he may appear sweet, but Tony can be an absolute menace), going to the lake with friends and family, and working his trusty Trader Joe’s job. Let’s give a huge round of applause to Tony and his CFI and arts and crafts pro, Cory Kleidosty (who has been making his students “solo” cups for these milestones) on this amazing accomplishment! That checkride is just on the horizon, Tony!

There’ve been rumors around the ramp these last few weeks that there’s a guy who can take the fuel cap off the top of the plane without having to use the strut to get up. You may have also seen this mystery man walk into the office, nearly hitting his head on the archway of the door entry. The other thing we’ve heard about him is that he recently crushed his first solo flight today! The man, the myth, and the literal legend, Andrew Billoti, who most likely holds the title for the tallest student to train with our school, soared through the skies solo this morning at KRTS in N752DW on runway 26! There are not enough amazing things to say about Andrew Bilotti. From soloing in just 4 weeks, flying sometimes twice a day, being a stud inside the airplane and out, studying at the Naval Academy, having one of the kindest personalities around, and working towards becoming a Navy pilot... it goes without saying that Andrew truly deserves this moment in the sun. Andrew, this has been a crazy few weeks for you, and we couldn’t be prouder of you and your progress! Let’s give Andrew and his apparently miniature CFI, Greg Anthenien, a huge congratulations on this well-deserved accomplishment! Andrew, we can’t wait to see you again soon, but until then, here’s to blue skies and tailwinds!



**ANDREW BILOTTI –
SOLO**



**KAYLEIGH DOHM –
SOLO**

“She Shoots, She Soars! Today, Kayleigh Dohm took the ice, er, runway, and absolutely crushed her first solo flight at KRNO on 35R in N495SP! While most dream of breakaways on the rink, Kayleigh’s out here pulling off pattern work like a pro. She left the instructor on the bench and flew three solid landings, totally unassisted. Just her, the airplane, and the goal horn of freedom sounding in her head. Kayleigh is quite possibly one of the most interesting people you’ll ever meet. Her life goal? To play professional hockey and suit up for her beloved New York Rangers. But if that doesn’t pan out, she’ll “settle” for being a pilot, ideally in a plane with Rangers livery (we can respect that). Whether she’s not dreaming of running drills on the ice or rolling out final, she brings the same fierce determination, sharp focus, and quiet confidence to everything she does. While she hasn’t signed with the NHL (yet), today’s solo was definitely a top-shelf moment. Stick taps to her CFI Greg Anthenien for being the coach behind the scenes, guiding her to this big win. From her love of pucks to propellers, Kayleigh’s proving the sky is her new arena.

Adam Chiamulon is officially a Private Pilot! What can we say about Adam...Well, he’s no stranger to aviation; he’s built a successful career in the industry, working with aircraft parts, cabin systems, and globe-spanning logistics. He’s probably been in more airplane cabins than all of us combined. But now, instead of helping the industry stay airborne, Adam’s the one behind the controls. Despite a work schedule that sends him bouncing across continents, he still found the time, drive, and commitment to knock out his private pilot training. Was it easy? Nope. Did we nag him constantly? Absolutely. Did he still bring us donuts? Like a champ. The man knows how to keep morale high. Let’s be real, becoming a pilot takes serious effort. And Adam’s not the type to phone it in. He showed up, studied, flew, and stuck with it, even when we threw mock checkrides, heat, and Reno’s ever-spicy wind conditions at him. The guy doesn’t quit, doesn’t cut corners, and somehow makes hot, turbulent flights look almost enjoyable. Now, Adam adds “pilot” to his already impressive list of achievements. Huge congrats to him, and to his awesome CFI Cory Kleidosty for keeping him on track and runway ready. The sky’s no longer the limit, it’s just his starting point.



**ADAM CHIAMULON –
PRIVATE**