

PAPER? OR PLASTIC?

The digital revolution arrived in the personal airplane's cockpit a bit later than everywhere else, but it's definitely here. While delays may help explain the abysmal student-retention rate in recent years, we're struck by the number of pilots who still insist on using a piece of paper and pencil to assemble their IFR flight planning.

Yes—some things need to be written down, especially clearances and ATIS information. But when it comes to the nuts and bolts of IFR flight planning—airport data, headings, leg lengths, airways—a huge array of free or low-cost services and applications are available to anyone with a computer, tablet or smartphone, and an Internet connection. Many really want to do it the old-fashioned way, but we prefer to save that 30 or so minutes of our lives for something more productive.

At top right is a custom flight log generated by the site at fltplan.com, a free, ad-supported service. On page 9, you'll see images taken from ForeFlight HD, an iPad application. At right is a modern flight log incorporating an FAA flight plan form. Which is more accurate, more comprehensive, quicker and easier to use?

Navigation Log
back
FltPlan.com
Tuesday 08-07-12
Dept: 2000L - Arr: 2213L
Save

N9451S	IFR	GenAv	BE33/L	Equip: DGLOV/C	ATIS:128.47 VOT:111.0
Dep: KTPA	0000Z	165kts	8,000	Route (see below)	Clnc:133.6
Dest: KATL	ETE: 2:13	Altn: KFTY		FSS: 800-992-7433 (1-35)	Elev:26 Gnd:121.35/121.7
Item 18:					Twr:119.05/119.5
Item 19: FOB: 0215 SOB: 2 PIC:JOSEPH BURNSIDE					

DIRECT

KTPA to KATL : TC=344° : (FMS winds: 164°/6) : MC= 349° : ST. LINE=353nm : AIRWAY=353nm : Extra=0%

Imagery
Sectionals
Jet Airways
Victor Airways
Route Map
Current Radar
Radar Loop

Winds Aloft	FL100 ISA(+05) Comp	FL080 ISA(+01) Comp	FL060 ISA(+03) Comp	FL040 ISA(+07) Comp
KATL0300	234/018 +16 +005	233/015 +13 +005	228/012 +13 +005	220/011 N/A +006
KATL0250	235/017 +16 +005	234/015 +13 +005	230/013 +13 +005	224/013 N/A +006
KATL0200	255/016 +16 -001	253/015 +13 +000	250/014 +13 +001	242/015 N/A +002
KATL0150	212/014 +16 +009	214/015 +13 +009	218/013 +13 +007	218/015 N/A +008
KATL0100	187/013 +16 +012	191/013 +13 +011	199/012 +13 +009	206/014 N/A +010
KATL0050	055/010 +16 -003	146/008 +13 +008	171/008 +13 +008	176/011 N/A +010
Avg. Trip Winds=>	+ 3 Tailwind	+ 6 Tailwind	+ 6 Tailwind	+ 7 Tailwind
FLT TIME=>	2:15(+02) 163TAS	2:13(+00) 165TAS	2:11(-02) 167TAS	2:12(-01) 164TAS
Fuel Burn=>	31.7 Gal.	32.8 Gal.	33.9 Gal.	34.2 Gal.

FIX	ST	LAT/LON	InB/Out	Leg	Rem	Fuel Burn Leg	Tot	Leg	Rem	ETE	WX
KTPA TAMPA	FL	N2758.5W08232.0	---/349	0	353	1.0	10:00	2:13	0:00		
KATL0300		N2850.0W08248.4	348/348	53	300	6.3	70:23	1:50	0:23	122.0	
KATL0250		N2938.1W08303.9	348/348	50	250	4.2	110:18	1:32	0:41	122.0	
KATL0200		N3026.2W08319.7	347/347	50	200	4.2	160:18	1:14	0:59	122.0	
KATL0150		N3114.2W08335.8	347/347	50	150	4.1	200:17	0:57	1:16	122.0	
KATL0100		N3202.3W08352.1	346/346	50	100	4.0	240:17	0:40	1:33	122.0	
KATL0050		N3250.2W08408.8	346/346	50	50	4.0	280:18	0:22	1:51	122.0	
KATL 116.9 ATLANTA	GA	N3338.2W08425.7	346/---	50	0	4.9	330:22	0:00	2:13		

EL:1026 Atis: 119.65 Twr: 119.5/119.1 Gnd: 121.9/121.75 Fuel hourly method: 34

ALTN: KFTY FULTON COUNTY AIRPORT-BROWN ATLANTA, GA BRG:334 NM:10 Time 9 Fuel: 2

LANDMARK AVIATION 131.5 ASOS : 404-762-1121 FSS Arrival Airport 800-992-7433 (1-42-1)

404-761-1960

