

Practical Applications?

Other than during the average pilot's takeoff or landing, there aren't too many practical applications for flying slowly. For the rest of us, consider these uses:

"HOVER MODE"

We often find ourselves behind a slower airplane in the pattern. Slowing down—to minimum controllable airspeed, if you have to—helps prevent us from executing a go-around or extending our downwind into the next county.

AERIAL OBSERVATION

Whether for the Civil Air Patrol or other organization needing accurate observation of objects on the ground, flying slowly and accurately gives us the greatest opportunity to find what we're looking for.



AIRSPEED CONTROL

Regardless of how good we think we are at landings, we always can do better. One of many pilots' perennial problems is airspeed control. Nailing the minimum controllable airspeed demo breeds final-approach confidence.