

# TOP TEN TIPS for GA pilots

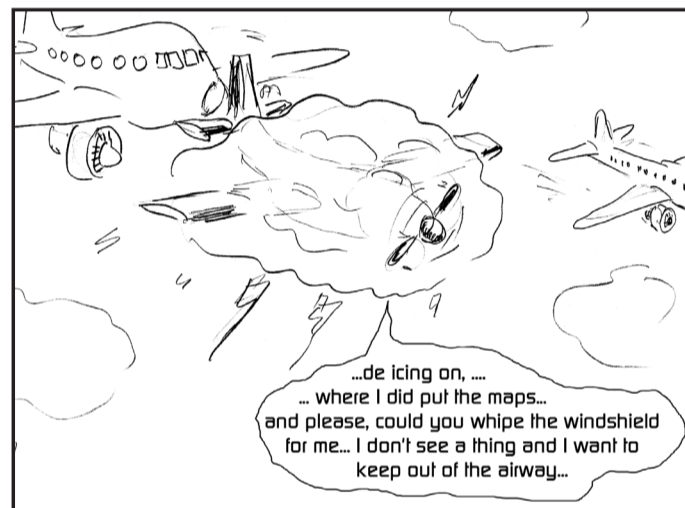


Ten ways to avoid an infringement, largely based on good airmanship and common sense:

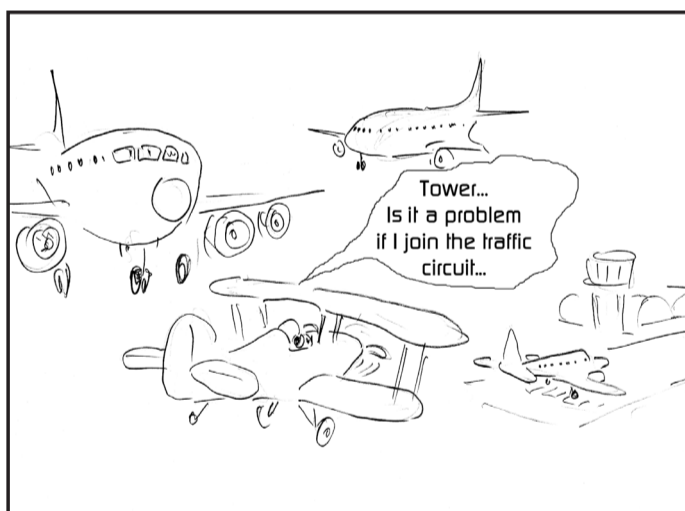


**1** Plan your flight! Where possible, avoid flying close to controlled airspace boundaries. A small navigational error or distraction of any sort can lead to an infringement – and it doesn't take much to ruin your day.

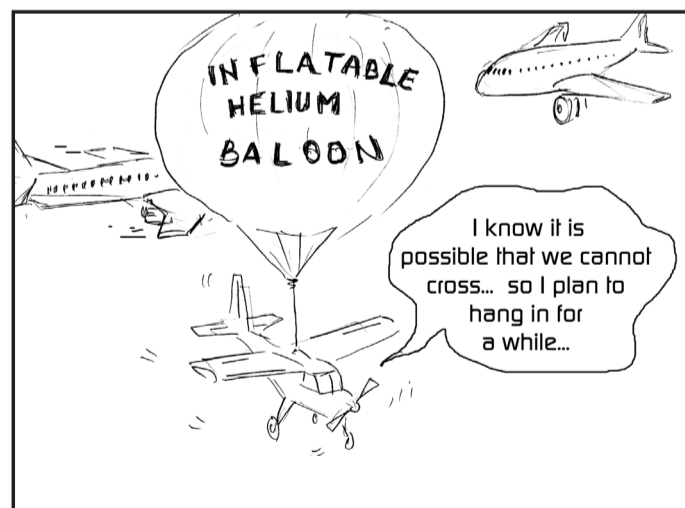
**2** Pilot workload rises rapidly in bad weather - and so do infringements. If the weather starts to deteriorate, consider your options early and if necessary divert or turn back in good time.



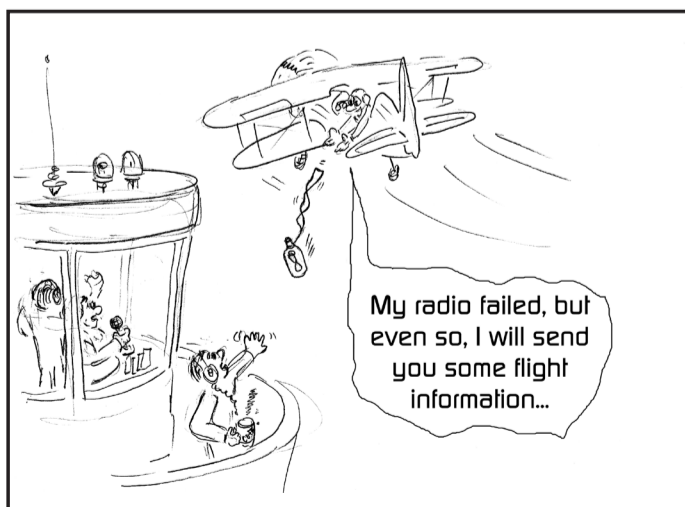
**3** If you wish to transit controlled airspace call the appropriate ATC unit well in advance. This gives the controller time to plan in your flight.



**4** If you plan to cross controlled airspace, remember that a crossing clearance may not always be possible. Be ready with a 'secondary' plan how to avoid controlled airspace - and don't forget to make your overall time and fuel calculations using the longer route.



**5** Don't hesitate calling ATC to pass information about your flight or ask for assistance.



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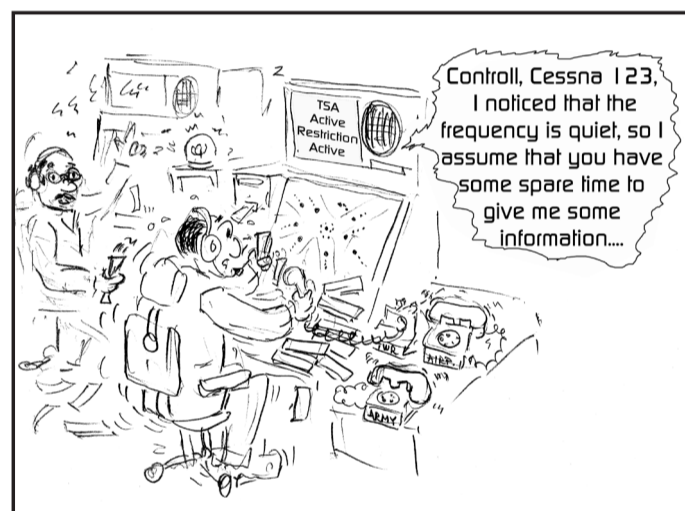


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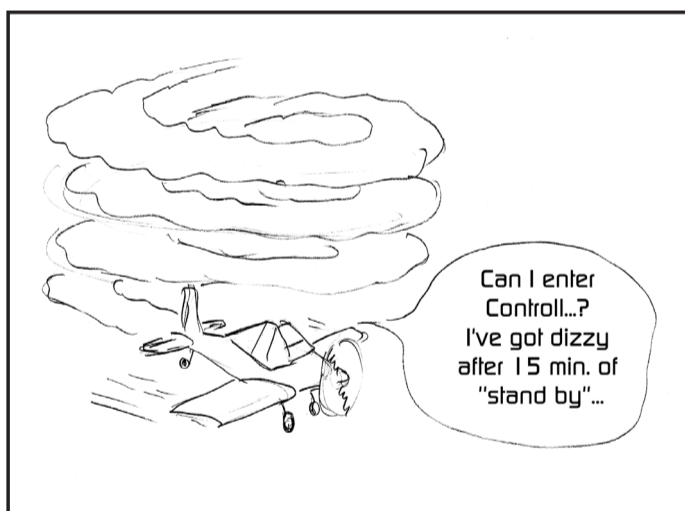


**6** Think about what you are going to ask before you press the transmit switch and **use the correct Radio phraseology**. It helps air traffic control to help you - and sounds more professional.

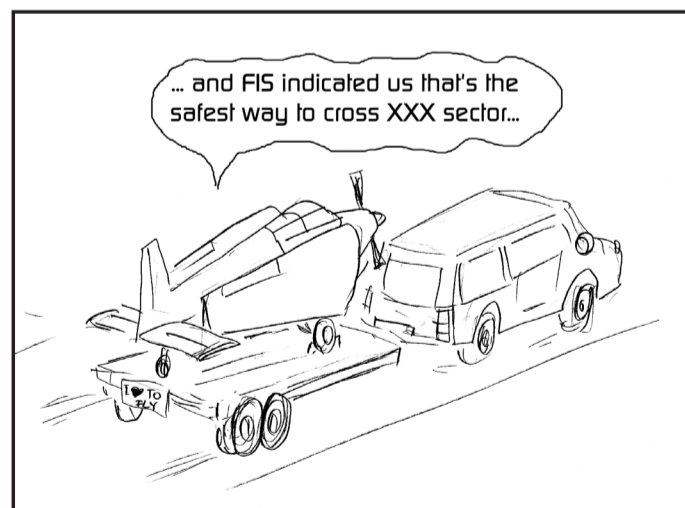
**7** Be aware that ATC may be busy when you call them – **even if the controller doesn't talk** at the frequency at that moment.



**8** Remember - the instruction '**Standby**' is **not an ATC clearance** and you shall fly around the **controlled airspace**, unless the controller issues a crossing clearance.



**9** Be prepared for a **crossing clearance** that does not match your planned route but will allow you to transit safely.



**10** Use the **transponder**, if equipped. It will help ATC identify you in case you need navigation assistance and **may prevent an infringement** which may in turn prevent a dangerous proximity to other aircraft or worse.

