

Airfreddy's **Guide on Learning To Fly**

**Step-by-Step Guide On the Private
Pilot License From Start To Finish**



Intro Flights

Most flight schools offer what is called an “intro flight”. This will be an introductory flight lesson that is usually about half hour long. It will depend on the flight school.

In every case your intro flight experience is going to be different depending on the instructor. Some instructors will spend a lot of time explaining the preflight and post flight procedures and on and on. I have found that most people over the years that want to do intro flights just want to see if they like being in a small airplane and don't feel like getting a sales pitch the first time at it. Basically you just want to get in the air and do it.

LENGTH: Most intro flights will be short. You can expect to be in the airplane about ½ hour. Once again the experience will be different depending on the instructor. I have seen some very frustrated students after an intro flight and some are very happy. Of course most all of my intro flights end up flying with me.

Do I get to fly? Once again that will depend on the instructor. Some instructors won't let you touch the controls and basically take you for a ride. Others will let you fly the entire time. I personally try to let the student fly the entire time. That's why you are there right? I let them takeoff and walk them thru landing and they fly every minute in between.

I would ask the instructor you plan on flying with if you are going to fly or not. If they say no, you may want to fly with someone else.

Does This Flight Time Count?: The answer is yes you just have the instructor sign the logbook and that time will count towards your private pilot certificate.

Can I do more than one intro flight ?: You can do as many as you like. There is no limit; most flight schools won't let you fly with all of their instructors for \$59. After you do the first one you will probably have to pay the hourly rate for the instructor and the airplane. So if you would like to do multiple intro flights go to a different flight school.

I do have one student who back in 1996 told me he did something like 15 intro flights before he flew with me. I was shocked but it is up to you. I wouldn't suggest flying that many hours because all that time you paid for is basically no good toward soloing or your private pilot certificate. Yes you can log the flight time but you are not really covering the subject areas needed to solo. You are just out there having fun.

So I would contact a few flight schools go out to them and talk with some different instructors and then decide who you want to fly with and then do one or perhaps two intro flights.



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