

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

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



Engine Failures in the Traffic Pattern

[Airplane Flying Handbook Chapter 17](#)

ENGINE FAILURES IN THE TRAFFIC PATTERN: The first place you can expect to have an engine failure in the traffic pattern is when you make your initial power reduction on downwind. In this case you just shut everything off and do a standard power off approach. If it is somewhere else in the pattern you may have less options. Make sure you are familiar your home airport environment and know your landing spots for all the legs of the traffic pattern.

If you loose power and you are close to the ground (within 1000 feet or so), **GET THE NOSEDOWN.** Go right to descent attitude and fly the plane. If you are at best glide attitude (barely below the horizon) you are not giving yourself any room for pitch changes you may need to hit the spot you choose. If you are at descent attitude at least you can bring the nose up a little if you need to slowdown.

ENGINE FAILURE ON TAKEOFF: If you can't see it in the windshield, don't try and land there. Go straight ahead. If you are 700 to 1000 feet above the ground and have already turned crosswind, you may be able to make it back to the runway.



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