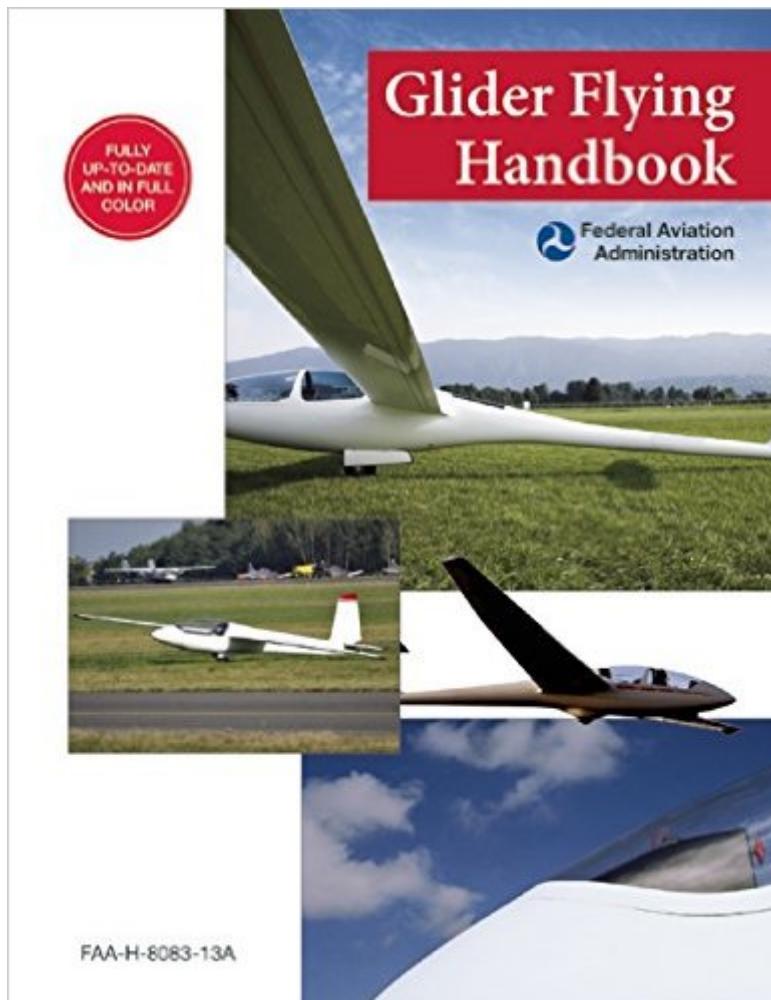


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# Glider Flying Handbook: FAA-H-8083-13A



## **Synopsis**

A valuable training aid for applicants preparing for glider category rating or current glider pilots who wish to improve their knowledge. This comprehensive handbook, created by the Federal Aviation Administration, supplies glider pilots with all the information they need for certification in the glider category. An all-in-one technical manual, the Glider Flying Handbook focuses solely on the precise science of glider flight. Inside are hundreds of detailed illustrations and diagrams on: Components and systems; Flight instruments; Performance limitations; Launch and recovery procedures; Flight maneuvers; Traffic patterns; Soaring weather; Radio navigation; And much more. Complete and authoritative, the FAA's Glider Flying Handbook makes available to the reader everything from the history of glider flight to the skills needed to fly cross-country. This ultimate resource is the essential tool all student glider pilots need to get certified and all experienced flyers need to stay safe and informed.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is THE AUTHORITATIVE manual for testing as a Glider Pilot. However, the printed version here is only if you need to carry the book around. And many of the new/used people selling here are selling a CD version [...]. The entire book, and addendum, are available from the FAA in PDF format, FREE. This is a government handbook, paid for with public funds. Take advantage of what you've already paid for.[...]

The book hits the right topics and has lots of illustrations, but the writing is soulless. This makes

some of the explanations hard to understand. The section on basic flight physics, for instance, is incomprehensible. On the other hand, the sections on variometers and total energy systems are quite clear. It's as though the book were a slightly expanded checklist written by several different aparatchiks all of whom lean heavily on government-speak. This is a good study guide for the written exam, but I wouldn't take it in isolation. It needs accompanying books (by Piggot, Stewart, or Langewiesche etc.) to make it complete.

Finally! The FAA itself has released just last month (as of this writing) the instruction book that will likely become the standard recommended volume for glider-pilot prep among Americans preparing for licensing. This book covers virtually all aspects of knowledge necessary for VFR and IFR (visual and instrument) flight rules related to soaring. Though there are quite a few interesting and informative books on glider soaring, the others lack the official stamp and aura of the Federal Aeronautics Administration itself. If you're preparing to solo and/or obtain your "ticket," you might as well read the most official treatise, since it is bound to be the most dependable path to the kind of education you need for all aspects of motorless flight in today's amazing sailplanes. In addition to its authoritative quality, as above, this book is also impressively complete, straightforward and easy to follow.

I ordered this book to replace my worn 2003 edition. This FAA publication desperately needed revision. This newer edition is even worse. The paper is less than bright white and the text is not sharp. The same charts, diagrams and drawings that were printed in color in earlier editions are now in muddy grayscale. The ASA published version of this book is printed in color. I'm returning this FAA version. This book does not deserve even one star.

As of 2006, the Soaring Society of America no longer offers the Soaring Flight Manual for sale because it has been replaced by the Glider Flying Handbook. This was not un-anticipated but still, IMHO, unfortunate. The Glider Flying Handbook, while generally good, has some serious flaws. For instance, the topics of pattern planning and hypoxia (to name just two) get a most cursory treatment. And, all drawings depicting ground launches show the wire being attached to a nose hood instead of a center of gravity hook - I mean, come on! Still, on the whole, I recommend this book. It does have much to offer and, quite likely, FAA test questions will come from this book. But, do look for and buy the Soaring Flight Manual - still available at .... for now. Tony V. Certified Flight Instructor, Glider

The book starts with a discussion of ADM or aeronautical decision making, and continues on with a systematic layout of the items a person piloting a glider needs to be familiar with. Both in its introduction and in its explanations it focuses on information as the pilot must use it in making decisions resulting in safe flight. I have read more technically rigorous explanations of the topics discussed in other sources but, seldom seen them integrated together as well in a format that allows the pilot to understand and then apply them effectively in flight.

This book is junk. It's a poor quality reprint. None of the graphics are in color, several pages are printed crooked, and the paper is terrible quality. Junk, junk, junk. Shipping to return the book and to receive it are more than the book cost by itself. Don't get duped. Do not buy this book from . Hopefully the ASA product is better.

I've been a licensed pilot for over 40 years, having earned my first rating (Private Pilot, Glider) when I was just teenager. But, I haven't flown gliders/sailplanes in quite a while and purchased this book as a refresher. It is very comprehensive and well-written. This is clearly a "pilots book" written with a thorough technical slant that might be too heavy a read for the novice or casual reader. Otherwise, it is highly recommended for those who are serious about mastering this wonderful sport.

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