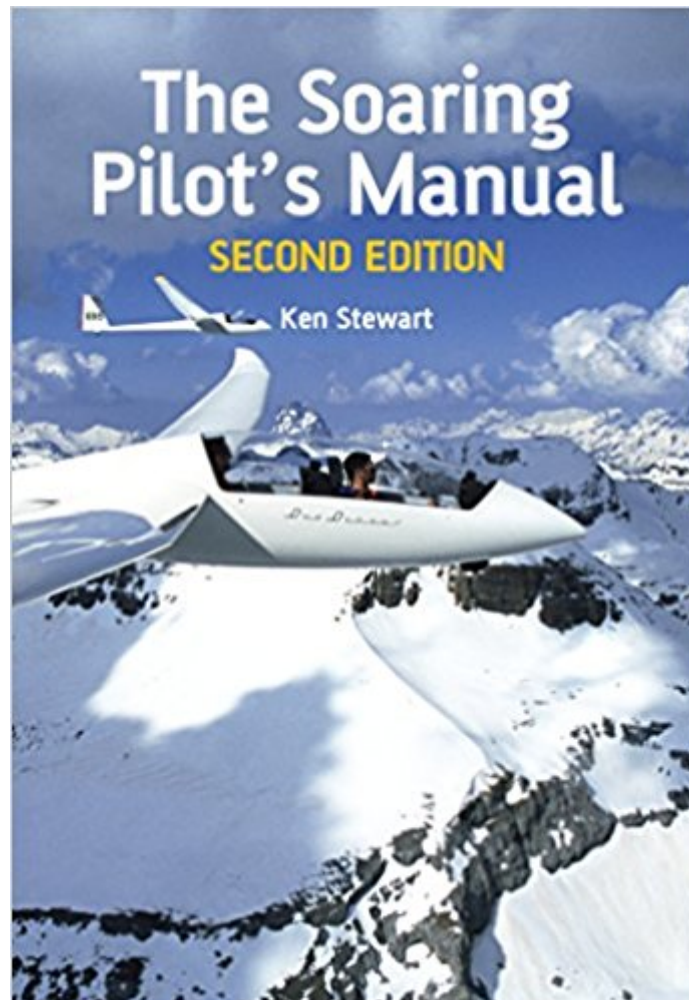




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Soaring Pilot's Manual: Second Edition



Synopsis

The Soaring Pilot's Manual advances the reader from elementary flying to confident soaring by clearly and precisely explaining the basic soaring mechanisms and techniques. Explanatory diagrams illustrate the text throughout, making a complicated subject simple to understand. Having covered the first steps, the book progresses to cross-country flying and the final section contains exercises that will be found useful for any glider pilot wishing to improve his ability and qualifications. The latest technology, such as GPS navigation and instrument systems is covered. Well illustrated with over 300 black & white line drawings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book that has been reprinted in 2008 is a bit outdated and still discusses barographs that are not used in contests anymore. Also, the discussion of airspace is irrelevant in US where basically, restricted airspace is only around airports and everywhere else it is OK to fly up to 17900 feet (class E/G airspace). This book has *no* equations at all and does not refer to other books like Stull's Meteorology for Scientists and Engineers or better Boundary Layer Meteorology. Figure 2.10 at

page 14 is incorrect. The author ignored the concepts of surface layer and mixing layer and the resulting equilibrium in the mixed layer where $dT / dz = -g / C_p = -9.75 \text{ K / km}$. Also, there is no mention of the rule of thumb that a thermal reaching $n \times 1000$ feet will have a vertical velocity of n knots. This rule of thumb does have a theoretical background. The book *Understanding the sky* from Dennis Pagen is much better because it introduces some equations where the pilot can assess what is happening. I would also recommend the book *Cross Country Soaring* from Reichmann. The book discussed here is useful for a student pilot who wants to climb 1000 metres or may be do his 50 kilometre leg for the Silver badge. It is of little interest to a scientifically minded advanced pilot.

I haven't finished the book yet, but have learned quite a bit in the first few chapters. For reference, I am an ATP considering taking up soaring. This book has plenty to offer for someone who knows quite a bit about high altitude flying, but nothing about soaring.

Soaring students be advised: this is not about coordinating turns, smooth aerotow, well-flown approaches. It might have been aptly subtitled "Soaring 301", as it is clearly for those who have mastered the basics and gotten their PPG or C Badge. American readers may want to keep their conversion tables handy as most temperatures are given in Celsius and many measurements in metric. Additionally, the British badge requirements now and then differ from those used by Soaring Society of America. The book is very well written and informative, even for those like me, (still a student), who may be months or years away from needing it.

I love the information in this book. I have been soaring for 2 years and still have a lot to learn. This book has some good insights into soaring.

I've found many great thoughts here. I like the author's way of describing things. I feel that I will read this book more than once.

Very complete manual, take a little introduction a micrometeorology and a technic of soaring flight in thermaling and thermaling form. Have a good details from a flight in several conditions in thermals streets, thormal in hills, close to coast, dolphin flight and more... Have life of thermal in day, is a new topic and to beginners is very good!! I suggest to all pilots to start a silver C Badge

The structure of the book is acceptable but the text and graphics are not as good as they should be

for a modern book. There are better manuals from the 80's.

excellent insite

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