

# Callouts for Single-Pilot Operations

A callout is a word or phrase that a pilot verbalizes at a predetermined time/event. Callouts are a critical part of crew communication and coordination in a multi-crew environment. In the single-pilot environment, callouts are also an effective way to help ensure important items are not missed. It's helpful to hear your own voice telling you that something is happening or reminding you to do something. Different pilots/companies have developed their own specific callouts. Below is a summary of commonly used callouts and their purpose in relation to single-pilot operations. To be most effective, pilots should develop the habit of consistently using the same callouts every flight. Please email [jim@FlywithJim.com](mailto:jim@FlywithJim.com) if you would like to suggest additional callouts for this list.

Callout	When used / Purpose
Airspeed alive	When indicated airspeed starts to increase on takeoff / To verify the pitot system is working before takeoff
V1	At V1 / To mentally note arriving at this speed (for high performance multi-engine airplanes only)
Rotate	At rotation speed / Ensure rotation is performed at the proper speed
V2	At V2 / To mentally note arriving at this speed (for high performance multi-engine airplanes only)
Positive rate	After ensuring the airplane is climbing / To avoid retracting the landing gear too soon
Gear up	When it's time to retract the gear / To ensure the gear is retracted at the proper time
Autopilot on	When autopilot activation is desired / To remind yourself to check the autopilot system to ensure it is properly engaged
One thousand	When 1,000 feet from level off altitude (climbing or descending) / To mentally note your current position in relation to your level off altitude
Five hundred	When 500 feet above instrument approach minimums / To mentally note your current position in relation to the approach minimums
Approaching minimums	When 100 feet above instrument approach minimums / To mentally note your current position in relation to the approach minimums
Minimums	When at instrument approach minimums
Landing	When required visual cues are in sight to continue landing from an instrument approach / To make your intentions clear to yourself
Go around	When deciding to go around from a landing / To make your intentions clear to yourself
Gear down 3 green, runway clear, clearance received	On short final after verifying gear position, runway is clear, and landing clearance has been received (if applicable) / To help ensure a safe landing