



# WeatherWise: VFR into IMC Personal Minimums Checklist and Recommendations

General Aircraft Experience	
<b>Single-engine fixed-gear:</b> _____ hours in past _____ months	<b>FAA requires:</b> None. <b>ASI recommends:</b> Three hours in any make/model within previous three months.
<b>Single-engine retractable-gear:</b> _____ hours in past _____ months	<b>FAA requires:</b> None. <b>ASI recommends:</b> Three hours in any retractable-gear make/model within previous three months.
<b>Multiengine:</b> _____ hours in past _____ months	<b>FAA requires:</b> None. <b>ASI recommends:</b> Three hours in same or similar make/model within previous three months.
Operational Currency / Proficiency	
<b>Flight review within previous</b> _____ months	<b>FAA requires:</b> 24 calendar months (FAR 61.56(c)). <b>ASI recommends:</b> 12 calendar months; if instrument rated, the flight review should include an instrument proficiency check (IPC), regardless of legal instrument currency.
<b>Day landings:</b> _____ landings in previous _____ days	<b>FAA requires:</b> Three landings in previous 90 days when carrying passengers (FAR 61.57(a)). Tailwheel—Three full-stop landings in any tailwheel make/model within previous 90 days. <b>ASI recommends:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One landing in previous 30 days, in addition to the FAA requirement.</li> <li>• Tailwheel—Three full-stop landings in any tailwheel make/model within previous 30 days.</li> </ul>
<b>Night landings:</b> _____ night landings in previous _____ days	<b>FAA requires:</b> Three full-stop night landings in previous 90 days when carrying passengers (FAR 61.57(b)). <b>ASI recommends:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One full-stop night landing in previous 30 days, in addition to the FAA requirement.</li> <li>• Tailwheel—Three full-stop landings at night in any tailwheel make/model within previous 30 days.</li> </ul>
<b>IFR:</b> _____ instrument hours and _____ instrument approaches in the past _____ months and _____ days.	<b>FAA requires:</b> Six instrument approaches, intercepting, tracking and holding in previous six calendar months (FAR 61.57(c)). <b>ASI recommends:</b> In addition to the FAA requirement, one hour of actual or simulated instrument flight and one instrument approach in previous 30 days; also, an IPC within the previous six calendar months.

Learn more in the *Weather Wise: VFR into IMC* course at [http://flash.aopa.org/asf/wxwise\\_vfrimc/](http://flash.aopa.org/asf/wxwise_vfrimc/)

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Weather Conditions	
<b>VFR:</b> Ceiling _____ feet Visibility _____ miles	<b>FAA requires:</b> Airspace-dependent—no less than clear of clouds, one mile visibility (FAR 91.155). <b>ASI recommends:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside traffic pattern—no less than 2,000 foot ceiling and five miles visibility.</li> <li>• Within traffic pattern—1,500 foot ceiling and three miles. Use caution in mountainous terrain.</li> </ul>
<b>IFR - Departure:</b> Ceiling _____ feet Visibility _____ miles	<b>FAA requires:</b> None. <b>ASI recommends:</b> Local instrument approach minimums, so that an immediate return can be made. If the airport has no instrument approach, use minimums from the nearest suitable airport with an instrument approach within 15 minutes.
<b>IFR - Arrival:</b> Ceiling _____ feet Visibility _____ miles	<b>FAA requires:</b> Instrument approach minimums. <b>ASI recommends:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Precision approach: 400 feet and one mile.</li> <li>• Non-precision approach: Lowest minimums applicable plus 200 feet and one-half mile.                Example: if approach minimums are 450 feet and one mile, personal minimums would be 650 feet and 1.5 miles.</li> <li>• Circling approach: Published minimums or 1,000 foot ceiling and three miles, whichever is higher; not recommended at night.</li> </ul>
<b>Crosswind component:</b> No more than _____ knots	<b>FAA requires:</b> None. <b>ASI recommends:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75 percent of maximum demonstrated crosswind.                Example: 16 (knots max demonstrated crosswind) x .75 = 12 knots recommended crosswind component</li> <li>• Tailwheel—no more than 10 knots of crosswind.</li> </ul>
Fuel Reserve	
<b>Day VFR:</b> _____ hour(s) _____ minutes <b>Night VFR:</b> _____ hour(s) _____ minutes <b>IFR:</b> _____ hour(s) _____ minutes	<b>FAA requires:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day VFR: 30 minutes.</li> <li>• Night VFR: 45 minutes.</li> <li>• Day or Night IFR: 45 minutes. (FAR 91.151, 91.167)</li> </ul> <b>ASI recommends:</b> Minimum 60 minutes for all, assuming that all contingencies have been accounted for (diversions, holding, headwinds, etc.). In other words, the airplane should land with at least one hour of fuel in the tanks.
Rest	
_____ hour(s) of undisturbed sleep in the past 24 hours	<b>FAA requires:</b> None. <b>ASI recommends:</b> 10 hours.

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