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Rod Machado's Private Pilot Handbook



Synopsis

Welcome to your instructor in a book. Written by a veteran ground and flight instructor, this book is presented in a warm, conversational manner and spiced with humor. With a quarter of century of teaching experience, Rod Machado's tried-and-true methods of instruction have achieved exceptional results with thousands of students. His fresh approach to instructing has made him a popular national speaker and educator! Rod has the unique ability to simplify the difficult and his humor helps you remember the lesson.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am very familiar with Rod Machado (the flight instructor, not the opera singer). His knowledge of aviation is second to none (except whoever taught him), and he knows how to communicate this knowledge to student (and other) pilots (like myself). He is especially proficient (and good at) at meteorology (the study of weather, not asteroids). Did all the parentheses in the previous paragraph annoy you? They will in Rod Machado's book, too. This book is LOADED with them. Mr. Machado can't seem to write more than 2 paragraphs without adding a joke or pun in parentheses to 'keep it light'. Don't get me wrong: the instructional information contained in this book is very thorough and presented clearly in layman's terms. I actually enjoyed some of the sidebars with anecdotes of his experiences as a pilot and a Certified Flight Instructor. THOSE were funny and entertaining. But the humor interwoven into the instructional text is WAY overdone and is mostly third grade humor. His attempt at making EVERY sentence funny gets old after about page 9. For instance, in the section

on aerodynamics and the four forces of flight, Mr. Machado writes: "Yoda, the transcendental handheld philosopher from the Star Wars movie trilogy, frequently dispatched Luke Skywalker with the benediction, May The Force be with you. In aviation there are four forces and they are always with us, whether Yoda or your flight instructor intervenes or not." Aside from being a poor attempt at using humor to hold my attention (unless he is trying to teach my 8 year old son - mention Star Wars and he'll read the whole book), it is incredibly wordy compared to: "There are four forces acting on an airplane in flight.

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