



## Learning to Fly Helicopters, Second Edition (Aviation)

By R. Padfield

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**Learning to Fly Helicopters, Second Edition (Aviation)** By R. Padfield

**A comprehensive guide to helicopter flying and flight training for aspiring private or professional helicopter pilots--updated for the first time in 20 years!**

Extensively revised to cover the latest industry advances, *Learning to Fly Helicopters*, Second Edition, provides details on the technical and practical aspects of rotarywing flight, guiding you from preflight preparation through postflight procedures and everything in between. Written in a conversational style, the book demystifies the art and science of helicopter flying. Real-world advice from the author and other pilots is included throughout.

This copiously illustrated, up-to-date edition features new information on glass cockpits, turbine engines, IFR flying, the latest FAA test standards for a private helicopter pilot certificate, emergency and safety procedures, how to choose a flight school, career opportunities, and more. Become a private or professional helicopter pilot with help from this trusted resource!

*Learning to Fly Helicopters*, Second Edition, covers:

- Five myths about helicopters
- Basic aerodynamics
- Flight controls
- Your first flight
- Basic flight maneuvers
- Learning to hover
- Autorotations
- Advanced maneuvers--with new material on hoisting, sling loads, and offshore operations
- Emergencies
- Hazards of low-level flying
- Flight training tips--civil and military
- Aircraft systems--with new information on glass cockpits and turbine engines
- Private pilot practical test standards for helicopter pilots
- The Ten Commandments for helicopter pilots

- Weight and balance, passenger briefings, and hand signals
- Employment opportunities
- Human factors and safety
- A flight to remember--lessons learned from the author's most stressful flight
- Born-again copilots--when experienced captains fly the left seat
- Resources for helicopter pilots
- Data on and photos of common civil helicopters
- There but for the grace of God--real hangar stories as told by real pilots
- Postflight

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### Editorial Review

From the Author

This book is about what it's like to learn to fly helicopters and what it's like to fly them as professional pilot. And what is that exactly? It starts with a *feeling*. A feeling that must be experienced before it can be understood. The best I can do is identify other experiences you're more likely to have had, and I hope you'll get the idea.

It's the feeling you get when a football floats into your hands as you're running full speed down the field, or when your bat hits smacks a baseball with a loud satisfying "thunk." It's the feeling a gymnast gets on the balance beam during a perfect routine, or an airplane pilot gets when squeaking a landing in a taildragger, or a skier gets when carving perfect turns in deep powder. It's the feeling every child gets the first time he or she masters riding a bicycle without training wheels. It's a hands-eyes-and-feet coordination thing.

That's what it's like to fly a helicopter.

This book can't give you that feeling. No book can. What this book can do is pave the way so that you get the feeling sooner.

Helicopters are fascinating, complicated machines. They're not easy to fly and they're not easy to understand. You have a lot of study, work and practice ahead of you, if you are to become a helicopter pilot. Believe me, it's worth the time, effort and money.

Once you get the *feeling*, you'll never want to let it go.

About the Author

**R. Randall Padfield**, author of five aviation books, is the former Editor-in-Chief and COO of Aviation International News (AIN Publications), where his work included pilot reports on more than 30 rotorcraft. In 2016 Padfield was awarded the Helicopter Association International's Excellence in Communications Award, sponsored by Lightspeed Aviation, and in 1998 he received NBAA's Gold Wing Award for reporting excellence. A rated airline transport pilot in helicopters and airplanes, he flew rescue missions in U.S. Air Force HH-3Es in Iceland and Alaska and offshore operations in Bell 212s, Sikorsky S-61Ns and Aerospatiale Super Pumas in the North Sea. Padfield has more than 9,000 hours of flight time, is a 1971 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and holds a masters degree in engineering management from UCLA. His writing has appeared in numerous other publications.

### Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Carla Spiegel:**

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a reserve your ability to survive raise then having chance to stay than other is high. In your case who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you that Learning to Fly Helicopters, Second Edition (Aviation) book as nice and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

**Kristen Clifford:**

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**Christopher Pruett:**

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**William Rockwood:**

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