Stage I
Landing Preparation

Landing Pattern

Runway Lineups

Ground Reference Targets
Landing Preparation

In this section: E-58 illustrates the landing pattern and using yourself as the primary reference to consistently position the upwind (into the wind) leg over the runway.

E-59 illustrates the question you must keep asking yourself while lining up with the runway, “What is the airplane doing in reference to me?” in order to quickly detect and correct deviations before they become otherwise obvious.

E-60 through E-65 illustrate using a ground reference target to mark the area where you need to start your average turn from to consistently come out of it already lined up with the runway centerline.

Note: Utilizing the right area (target) to start the base leg turn from is one of the main reasons why proficient flyers make the lineup and landing look so easy.

Landing Pattern Initial Objective:

Since you’re going to be looking up and not at the runway, guiding the plane in reference to yourself is the most effective and only practical reference to consistently overfly the runway — realizing the runway is directly in front of you.

E-66 & 67 summarize the main lessons to this point.

E-57 KPTR: The initial objective in the landing pattern is to consistently position the upwind leg over the runway.