

GLOSSARY: L, M & N

This webpage found at:
<http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Curricula/AerospaceSupp/Activities/Glossary.htm>

L

landing gear - the wheels on an airplane so it can land and taxi

landing skids - the skids whose main purpose is to support and absorb shock of the aircraft during landing

latitude - the east-west line around the Earth/measures north-south in relation to 0° in England

launch - to take off

launch lug³ - a short piece of tubing that resembles a straw. It is attached to the outside of the body tube and makes sure the rocket travels straight up the launch rod when the rocket is first ignited.

launch rod - cylindrical rod used to guide a rocket in its first few feet of flight

launching system - devices used to send off a rocket vehicle under its own rocket power

lighter-than-air - aircraft that is lifted into the air by a gas that weighs less than air

lift - See four forces of flight

line-person - person who provides ground services, such as fueling aircraft, moving aircraft, etc.

load tapes⁵ - reinforced vertical seams in the envelope that are connected to the basket by load cables and carry the load for the envelope

longitude - the north-south line around the Earth/measures east-west in relation to the equator

luggage handler - makes sure proper baggage gets on each aircraft and to the appropriate destination

M

main rotor - main rotor blades attached to the hub whose purpose is to create lift

mean sea level (MSL) - altitude above sea level irrespective of local terrain or airport elevation

medical -

- **first class** - allows pilot medical clearance to exercise the privileges of the Airline Transport Pilot certificate for six months
- **second class** - allows pilot medical clearance to exercise the privileges of a commercial pilot certificate for compensation or hire for one year
- **third class** - required before a student pilot may fly alone. Allows pilot medical clearance to exercise the privileges of the private pilot certificate for two years over 40 years old or three years under 30 years.

meteorologist - a person who studies the weather forecasts changes and gives weather reports

microgravity - term used to describe the apparent weightlessness and fractional g-forces produced in orbit. In orbit, you essentially fall around the Earth, producing a floating condition.

middeck - portion of the crew module that serves as the shuttle crew's home in space. It is on the middeck that they prepare meals, use the bathroom, clean up and sleep.

monoplane - an airplane with one set of wings

multi-engine aircraft - aircraft with two or more engines, often located on the wings

multi-engine aircraft - an aircraft with more than one engine

N

National Association of Rocketry (NAR) Rules - official safety rules governing the launch of model rockets

navigation light¹⁵ - lights that show an aircraft's location for other pilots. The lights are coded to show an aircraft's left (red light) and right (green light) sides.

non-directional beacon (NDB) - navigating by radio signals within the vicinity of an airport

nose - the forward part of an aircraft

nose cone³ - the "top" most part of the rocket. It's shape helps reduce drag as the rocket flies through the air.

nose gear - the wheel on an aircraft's nose

orbital radius - the distance from the center axis of the Earth to the circular path of the spacecraft

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