

Sample Radio Calls

The following sample communications will help you frame various types of radio calls.

When in doubt, remember the four Ws:

- **W**ho you're calling
- **W**ho you are
- **W**here you are
- **W**hat you want

Class D Airspace

Departing

When ready to taxi:

Pilot: Lancaster Ground, Cherokee 8121K, west ramp, VFR, 4,500 to Frederick with [information] Sierra.

Ground: Cherokee 8121K, Lancaster Ground, Runway 26, taxi via Delta, cross Runway 13, hold short Runway 26.

Pilot: Lancaster Ground, Cherokee 8121K, Runway 26 taxi via Delta, cross Runway 13, hold short Runway 26.

When ready for takeoff:

Pilot: Lancaster Tower, Cherokee 8121K, Runway 26, ready for departure.

Tower: Cherokee 8121K, Runway 26, cleared for takeoff.

Pilot: Cleared for takeoff Runway 26, Cherokee 8121K.

Arriving

Pilot: Lancaster Tower, Cherokee 8121K, 10 [miles] southwest at 2,500, inbound for landing with [information] Sierra.

Tower: Cherokee 8121K, Lancaster Tower, report entering left downwind Runway 31.

Pilot: Report entering left downwind, Cherokee 8121K.

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Pilot: Cherokee 8121K entering left downwind Runway 31.

Tower: Cherokee 21K, cleared to land Runway 31.

Pilot: Cleared to land Runway 31, Cherokee 21K.

For use in chart or flight planning ring binders, cut along dashed lines and punch holes as needed in margins. To ensure accurate sizing, set printer Page Scaling option to "None" or "100%."



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Class C or TRSA Airspace

Departing

When ready to taxi:

- Pilot: Greensboro Ground, Cherokee 8121K, general aviation ramp, VFR, 5,500 to Raleigh with [information] Sierra.
- Ground: Cherokee 8121K, Greensboro Ground, cleared to Raleigh, maintain VFR at or below 3,000, departure frequency 118.5, squawk 4234, advise when ready to taxi.
- Pilot: Cherokee 8121K is cleared to Raleigh, maintain VFR at or below 3,000, departure frequency 118.5, squawk 4234, we're ready to taxi.
- Ground: Cherokee 21K, Runway 23 Left, taxi via Kilo, hold short Runway 23 Left.
- Pilot: Greensboro Ground, Cherokee 21K, Runway 23 Left, taxi via Kilo, hold short Runway 23 Left.

When ready for takeoff:

- Pilot: Greensboro Tower, Cherokee 8121K, Runway 23, ready for departure.
- Tower: Cherokee 8121K, Runway 23, cleared for takeoff.
- Pilot: Cleared for takeoff, Runway 23, Cherokee 8121K.

Arriving

- Pilot: Greensboro Approach, Cherokee 8121K, 20 [miles] west at 5,500, landing with [information] Foxtrot.
- ATC: Cherokee 8121K, Greensboro Approach, squawk 2150 and ident.
- Pilot: Squawk 2150, Cherokee 8121K.
- ATC: Cherokee 21K, radar contact, fly heading 110, descend and maintain 4,500, maintain VFR.
- Pilot: Fly heading 110, descend and maintain 4,500, maintain VFR, Cherokee 21K.



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Class B Airspace

Departing

Class B departure calls follow the same format as Class C or TRSA airspace. However, you may need to contact Clearance Delivery prior to calling Ground and provide them the four Ws.

Arriving

Pilot: Charlotte Approach, Cherokee 8121K, 20 [miles] southwest at 7,500, landing Charlotte with [information] Charlie.

ATC: Cherokee 8121K, Charlotte Approach, squawk 4323 and ident.

Pilot: Squawk 4323, Cherokee 8121K.

ATC: Cherokee 21K, radar contact, cleared to enter Class Bravo airspace, fly heading 020, descend and maintain 3,000, maintain VFR.

Pilot: Cleared to enter Class Bravo airspace, fly heading 020, descend and maintain 3,000, maintain VFR, Cherokee 21K.

Transiting

Pilot: Seattle Approach, Cherokee 8121K, 20 [miles] southwest of Seattle VOR at 7,500, en route Arlington, request transit Class Bravo airspace.

ATC: Cherokee 8121K, Seattle Approach, squawk 3121 and ident.

Pilot: Squawk 3121, Cherokee 8121K.

ATC: Cherokee 21K, radar contact 18 miles southwest of SeaTac, Seattle altimeter 29.88, cleared through Class Bravo direct Arlington, descend and maintain 5,500, maintain VFR.

Pilot: Cleared through Class Bravo direct Arlington, descend and maintain 5,500, maintain VFR, Cherokee 21K.



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Opening a VFR Flight Plan

Pilot: Raleigh Radio, Cherokee 8121K on 122.2.
Flight Service: Cherokee 8121K, Raleigh Radio, go ahead.
Pilot: Raleigh Radio, open flight plan for Cherokee 8121K from Greensboro to Knoxville at 1835 Zulu.
Flight Service: Cherokee 21K, flight plan activated at 1835 Zulu, Greensboro altimeter 30.02. We'd appreciate any pilot reports on Flight Watch, 122.0.

Requesting/Canceling Flight Following

Requesting

Pilot: Manchester Approach, Cherokee 8121K.
ATC: Cherokee 8121K, Manchester Approach.
Pilot: Cherokee 8121K over Concord VOR at 6,500, en route Trenton Mercer, request flight following.
ATC: Cherokee 21K, squawk 3314.
Pilot: Squawk 3314, Cherokee 21K.

Canceling

Pilot: Manchester Approach, Cherokee 8121K would like to cancel flight following.
ATC: Cherokee 8121K, radar service terminated, squawk VFR, frequency change approved.
Pilot: Squawk VFR, Cherokee 8121K.



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