

Failure of power unit

An aircraft shall not be flown below such height as would enable it to make an emergency landing without causing danger to persons or property on the surface in the event of a power unit failure.

The 500 feet rule

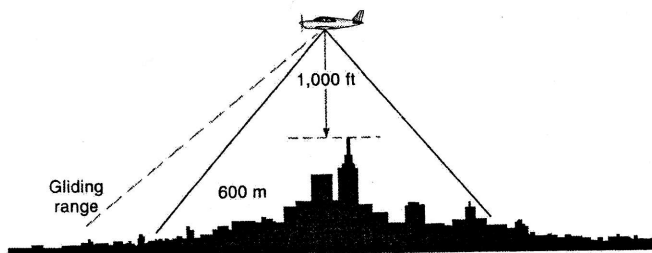
Except with the written permission of the CAA, an aircraft shall not be flown closer than 500 feet to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure.



■ Figure 2-11 **Maintain 500 ft clearance**

The 1000 feet rule

Except with the written permission of the CAA, an aircraft flying over a congested area of a city, town or settlement shall not fly below a height of 1,000 feet above the highest fixed obstacle within a horizontal radius of 600 metres of the aircraft.



■ Figure 2-12 **'Land clear' and 1000 ft rules over congested areas**

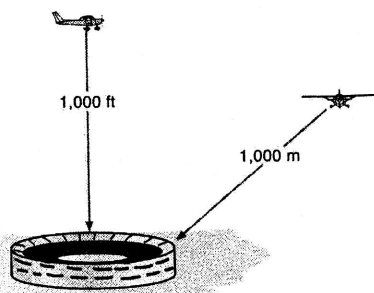
The land clear rule

An aircraft flying over a congested area of a city, town or settlement shall not fly below such height as would permit the aircraft to land clear of the congested area in the event of a power unit failure. Landing must be made without undue hazard to persons or property on the surface.

Flying over open air assemblies

Except with the written permission of the CAA, an aircraft shall not fly over an organised open-air assembly of more than 1,000 persons below the higher of the following heights:-

- (i) 1,000 feet; or
- (ii) such height as would permit the aircraft to land clear of the assembly in the event of a power unit failure.



■ Figure 2-13 **Maintain 1000 ft clearance from large open-air gatherings and beyond 1000 metres when taking off or landing**

Landing and taking off near open air assemblies

An aircraft shall not land or take-off within 1,000 metres of an organised, open-air assembly of more than 1,000 persons except:

- (i) at an aerodrome, in accordance with procedures notified by the CAA; or

- (ii) at a landing site which is not an aerodrome, in accordance with procedures notified by the CAA and with the written permission of the organiser of the assembly.

Exemptions from the Low Flying Prohibitions

The exemptions from the low flying prohibitions are as follows:

Landing and taking off

- (i) Any aircraft shall be exempt from the low flying prohibitions in so far as it is flying in accordance with normal aviation practice for the purpose of:
 - (a) taking off from, landing at or practising approaches to landing at; or
 - (b) checking navigational aids or procedures at a Government or licensed aerodrome.
- (ii) Any aircraft shall be exempt from the 500 feet rule when landing and taking-off in accordance with normal aviation practice or air-taxiing.

Police air operator's certificate

Any aircraft flying in accordance with the terms of a police air operator's certificate shall be exempt from the 500 feet rule, the 1,000 feet rule and the prohibitions on flying over open air assemblies and on landing and taking off near open air assemblies.

Flying displays etc

An aircraft taking part in a flying display, air race or contest shall be exempt from the 500 feet rule if it is within a horizontal distance of 1,000 metres of the gathering of persons assembled to witness the event.

Exeter ACC

Extract from the UK
Air Navigation Order

A quick reference

for Members

15/07/2021