

ForeFlight SOPs

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ForeFlight
Intelligent Apps for Pilots™

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES / IPAD CONFIGURATION CONTROL

January 3rd, 2018 Version 3.0

Preflight

- All company pilots will use either the company issued Apple iPad (Air, Pro, etc.) or Apple iPad Mini (2,3, or 4th gen) as the approved Electronic Flight Bag (EFB) for flight planning and operational use in-flight.
- All company iPads (both primary and backup) will be fully charged before the first flight of the day. 50% minimum charge before a flight. 75% charge if using continuous ADS-B/in-flight weather. All accessories will be available and charged.
- Pilots are responsible to ensure that the latest updates to both Apple iOS (if cleared by ForeFlight via email) and ForeFlight Mobile software have been installed before each flight.
- Pilots are responsible to ensure that all charts and data required for each leg of the flight are downloaded and current before the flight occurs. ForeFlight's "Pack" feature can be used to identify and download charts and data that are needed before each flight.
- Airport Information, to include METARs, TAFs, Winds Aloft and appropriate imagery for the departure airport, route of flight and alternates are to be reviewed before each flight.
- Current NOTAMS for the departure airport, route of flight, destination and alternates are to be reviewed before each flight leg.
- In-app Flight Notifications and Weather Briefings are to be saved for later review.
- File flight plan
- Screen Rotation Lock on the iPad is to be set ON for each flight.
- An Apple approved charging adapter that delivers 2.1 amps and 10 watts of power is to be kept onboard the aircraft for inflight charging of the iPads.

In-Flight

- iPad use in the cockpit is permitted for display of electronic charts, documents, flight planning, in-flight weather, and Wi-Fi access for obtaining weather information. Wi-Fi use for personal communication or other activities is prohibited.
- Crew members are cautioned to avoid distracting activities.
- Crew members are responsible for securing devices in-flight.
- iPad use during sterile cockpit phases is limited to critical tasks only (e.g. reviewing approach plates).
- We recommend using position data from an installed GNSS source. You may use iPad GPS or GPS Portable Electronic Devices supporting the EFB Application. You may overlay EFB own-ship position on an EFB only when the installed primary flight display, weather display, or map display also depict own-ship position.
- Until approved otherwise, paper charts will remain onboard the aircraft as a backup to the ForeFlight Mobile Electronic Flight Bag. When there is a conflict, current paper charts will have priority.

- In an emergency situation, ensure that the EFB is stowed and secured before landing. Company computer policies apply to iPad usage. iPads are not to be used for entertainment purposes during flight or taxi operations.

Power Management

- iPad battery life is to be monitored while the pilot is on duty. Pilots will proactively recharge the devices if concerns arise about power level.
- Power below 20% is a caution; battery saving actions are advised, including: Reduction of screen brightness to the lowest acceptable setting; brightness is the largest source of power drain.
- Ensure iPad is in Airplane Mode: this will disable all radios and thus preserve battery power. If connected to an external device using Wi-Fi or Bluetooth, the necessary radios can be re-enabled after entering Airplane Mode.

Troubleshooting / Abnormal Procedures

- Operation with a single iPad is considered an abnormal procedure.
- To restore device from abnormal conditions (during non critical phase of flight) restart the iPad by holding down the power button normally found on the top of the device. Then swipe to turn off. Then press the power button to restart the device. If issue continues discontinue use of the iPad and switch to the back up.
- During an in-flight iPad failure, if no backup is available, notify ATC of an EFB failure causing loss of access to charts.
- Consider diverting to an airport with VFR conditions if the destination and alternate are IFR.
- If an approach is required, approach instructions should be obtained from ATC or Flight Operations.

Post-Flight Procedures

- Record squawks for the devices, operating system, application or other.
- Reset airport selections or other information related to the last flight.
- Begin charging iPads and accessories.
- iPads will be removed from the aircraft for overnight stays, used for planning and recharged when out of the aircraft.



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www.foreflight.com
Questions? Email team@foreflight.com

2323 S. Shepherd Drive,
Suite 912
Houston, Texas 77019

BATTERY CHARGING PROCEDURES

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Introduction

The Apple iPad Mini, iPad Air, and iPad Pro (9.7 Inch, 10.5 Inch, and 12.9 Inch) are permanently sealed Electronic Flight Bags (EFBs). Each device contains rechargeable lithium-polymer batteries rated at 23.8 watt- hours and 32.4 watt-hours respectively. Available battery life will be from 7 - 10 hours of normal use from a fully charged state.

iPad battery life will be monitored by the pilots while they are on duty. Pilots will pro-actively charge the device if concerns arise about available power levels.

Recommendations

1. Use Apple manufactured or approved charging cables and accessories. Use a charging outlet that provides the required 2.1 amps and 10 watts of power. Overnight charging is acceptable as both devices have overcharge protection and will automatically stop charging when complete. If the battery gets too warm, both devices will stop charging automatically (but will still run on external power). Apple's recommended operating temperature range: 32° to 95° F (0° to 35° C). Non-operating temperature range: -4° to 113° F (-20° to 45° C).

Tips

1. iPads do charge slowly, even with the Apple charger. When plugged in and downloading updates to ForeFlight Mobile, iPad charging will take several hours. Plan accordingly.
2. Screen brightness is typically the largest drain on an iPad's battery. Use the following two tips alone or in conjunction to set the screen's brightness as low as possible while retaining visibility.

3. You can adjust screen brightness from within ForeFlight Mobile using the Brightness slider at the top of the global Settings menu or in the settings menus for the Maps, Plates, and Documents views. ForeFlight Mobile includes multiple settings to darken or invert colors for better night vision and less battery consumption: Invert Chart Colors in the Maps view settings, Invert Plate Colors in the Plates view settings, Invert Document Colors in the Documents view settings, and Dark App Theme below the Brightness slider at the top of the global Settings menu. If possible, depending on setup, Turn WiFi and Bluetooth OFF in flight to lower battery usage. To turn WiFi and Bluetooth OFF: Tap Settings on iPad home page > Select WiFi and Bluetooth OFF.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Other suggestions to improve battery life:

1. In the main iPad settings menu use the following settings:
 - Airplane Mode: OFF
 - WiFi: OFF (unless connected to the Portable Electronic Device accessory)
 - Bluetooth: OFF (unless connected to an external Bluetooth GPS device)
 - Cellular Data: OFF
2. Close "all" apps running in the background before your flight.
 - Exit ForeFlight and go to the main iPhone or iPad home screen. Press the button at the bottom of the iPhone/ iPad twice in a row. Small "screen" pictures of the last apps you've used should appear in the middle of the page. If that doesn't appear – please try double-clicking again until they do.
 - Scroll left or right until you find any other open applications, then swipe your finger "up", dragging them off the top of the page.
 - Click the home button at the bottom of the iPhone/iPad to exit.
 - Tap the ForeFlight Mobile icon to re-open the app.