



The Easy Guide To Choosing The Best Flight Simulators

You may give away this ebook

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A Flying Introduction

Have you ever dreamed about flying? Don't have the time? Don't have the money? Are you afraid of heights? Do you get severe motion sickness? The answer is here no matter how many challenges you think come between you and flying a plane as a pilot or a passenger. Modern flight simulators give you every experience of flying a REAL airplane without ever leaving the ground, or even moving out of your living room. How cool is that?

There are many flight simulators on the market today, some good and some are truly horrid. A flight simulator is a system that is designed to give the user the feeling of "real flight". They can range anywhere from a "cockpit" structure placed on hydraulics, a computer disk that can be purchased in stores or a program that can be downloaded. We have tried and tested dozens of downloadable simulators for you, and come up with three wonderful, realistic ones that have passed our tests.

For years, the military and flight schools around the world have used flight simulators to train their pilots. These flight schools have used realistic flight simulators for years to train their pilots in basic, advanced, and combat flying. The more realistic the simulator used is, the better trained the pilots will be, before they even get into an airplane. This can potentially save millions of dollars in equipment.



[Why Are People Crazy About Flight Simulators](#)

Why use a flight simulator instead of taking flying lessons? There are a number of reasons for this. One of the biggest reasons is money, since many flight schools use flight simulators, before they take you up in an airplane, you will be “ahead of your class” if you learn basic airplane controls on a flight simulator. This will save you some expensive lessons.

Another reason to use a flight simulator instead of taking flying lessons is that it is friendlier to the environment. A large international airplane uses about five gallons of fuel per mile. Using a flight simulator to fly takes zero gallons per mile of fuel!

While the risk of flying is low, only about one in eleven million average Americans die from flight related incidents. Especially in the days of unexpected terrorist attack. The risk of flying a flight simulator is zero! That’s right ZERO, unless your computer should explode, you are at no risk at all.

Last, but not least, a flight simulator takes little or no hassle to begin. You get yourself a drink, maybe a snack, boot up your computer, and sit down in your living room.

Taking flight lessons involve driving, parking, walking, and even standing in line. And most flight instructors will not wish for you to drink, eat a snack, or listen to your favorite music during the lessons.



Chart 1 - Pros & Cons

Simulator

Low cost
No risk
Environmentally safe
No hassle

Airplane

High Cost
Low risk
Five gallons of fuel per mile
a lot of hassle

What To Look For In A Good Flight Simulator

While it is impossible to list all the features that make a good flight simulator here, I will list some for you. Most flight simulator users look for the following attributes, without them the simulator will leave the user with a feeling of disappointment, and even discourage them from wanting to fly.

- Realistic
- Different Skill Levels
- Clear Graphics
- Many Locations And Graphics Available
- Different Weather Situations And Scenarios Available
- Customizable
- Online Help Available
- Availability Of Add On Features And Updates

While this may seem a long list of features to look for in something that is “just a game”, making sure the simulation has all of these features so that it will increase your enjoyment and flying experience. A poor simulation experience may turn a potential pilot off of flying!



What Simulations Are Available?

As mentioned, simulations can be a physical cockpit connected to hydraulics, a computer disk purchased in a store, or a downloadable program. The majority of flight simulator players use downloadable programs for their gaming enjoyment, generally with the use of a joystick connection to their personal computer.

Let’s go through some of the different sceneries, scenarios and planes available:

Available Scenery

The scenery available for flight simulators is wide. Anything from completely realistic worldwide scenes to fabricated and fantastic fantasy scenery can be found. Major cities, open plains, dense forests, rivers, and oceans are all available. The Flight Pro Sim, <http://flightprosim.com/> offers worldwide realistic scenery that is based on national defense maps.

Available Scenarios

Around the world, there are so many possible scenarios and scenery it is impossible for any flight simulator program to include them all. Flight

Simulator Plus, <http://flightsimulatorplus.com/> tries hard too though! Flight Simulator Plus offers REAL scenarios and weather conditions, worldwide. From flying conditions over New York City, to flights over the Egyptian Great Pyramids, Flight Simulator Plus gives users hundreds of scenarios to choose from in realistic plans and settings.

Available Planes

There are an uncountable number of different types of airplanes in existence and in use worldwide. It is impossible for any flight simulator to include every airplane existing in the software and the program would be too large to fit on any computer. Pro Flight simulator includes many types of planes, <http://www.proflightsimulator.com> they offer over 120 different types of airplanes users can fly, and over 20,000 REAL airports worldwide. Pro Flight Simulator is one of the best flight simulators available for download currently on the market.

What Simulation Should I Start With?

There are so many scenarios, weather conditions, and locations, where should you start? If you have never played a flight simulator before, start with something easy and familiar.

Start With Something Easy

Most flight simulators have a feature that allows you to choose the difficulty level of your scenario. If you have never used a flight simulator before you should start with the easiest rather than the difficulty level available. These scenarios are designed to teach you the basics you will need to know about a plane. The functions and locations of the controls, as well as

basic safety checklists, are concepts that need to be grasped before you begin a flight simulation.



Progress At A Steady Pace

Do not skip difficulty levels if it is your first time using a flight simulator. Skipping instruction steps and difficulty levels will result in frustration and disillusionment. By taking the difficulty levels step by step, you will learn all you need to know in order to successfully complete the more complicated, advanced scenarios. Learn to fly at a steady self-paced rate, and you will soon become an expert flyer!

Steps To Becoming An Expert in Flight Simulation:

- **Learn The Preflight Safety Checklist**
- **Learn The Functions And Locations Of Controls**
- **Normal Take Offs And Landings**
- **Normal Flight**
- **Situational Take Offs And Landings**
- **Situational Flights**

If these steps are followed slowly and in order, you will be an expert pilot! Repeat each step and scenario until you can complete it with no errors before moving along to the next more difficult one.

Advancing in Simulations

Some simulations are designed for expert pilots only, and should not be attempted until the easier scenarios have been perfected. For instance, if you see a scenario that is located in a snow storm, be sure to perfect clear weather simulations before attempting it! If you do not know the locations and functions of the controls, you will not be able to successfully complete the simulations.

Challenging situations available

Some of the challenging situations available are listed here. It is impossible of course to list all the situations that are available in simulations, and it is impossible for any one simulation to include all situations you may possibly encounter.

Situations

- Bad Weather, Rain, Snow, High Winds
- Short Runways
- Blockages On Runways
- Control Failure
- Failure Of Communication Equipment
- Engine Or Other Equipment Failure



Different Weather Options

As stated, you should start with clear weather conditions. Move progressively through the available weather conditions and scenarios. Clear and sunny, light rain, thunder storms, light snow, heavy snow, blizzard and ice conditions. By completing flights in each weather condition, pilots will be able to complete any scenario in any weather. Different areas have different “normal” weather conditions, and the location and weather of the scenario should match as closely to reality as possible.

Harder Planes

Some planes are inherently more difficult to fly than others, and most different types of planes will have controls located in different places in the cockpit. Simulation players should study the locations of controls in different planes before attempting the simulation with that plane. There are thousands of planes currently in use worldwide, and no simulation can possibly offer the choice of them all. Simulations that offer users the ability to customize planes, scenarios, and weather conditions, such as Pro Flight Simulator, (insert your affiliate link) will offer users the best flight simulation experience.

Conclusion

Flight simulation programs are now available for download more readily than ever before, and more people than ever are learning how to fly with these realistic scenarios. Flight simulators have been used for years by the military and by private flight instructors when training new pilots and you can get a head start on your lessons through them from the comfort of your own home! Flight simulators are less expensive, less hassle, and use less fuel than traditional flight lessons.

Many good flight simulation software packages are available for the general public to download or purchase in stores. Downloading a flight simulation software package will avoid damaged disks, give instant game play accessibility, and many also offer online 24 hour support, and free updates and plug ins.

We definitely recommend you check out the above Flight Simulators as they were the best we tried and had the easiest time learning and using.