



DSSTest

FAA Knowledge Exam Study



- For PalmOS® 2.0 or later.
- Contains All FAA Airplane questions!
- Private, Instrument and Commercial Exams available!
- Integrates with DSSCalc Flight Computer for more productive study time.
- Custom compression reduces memory requirement to only 250 K of Palm memory.
- On-line Help.

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For Technical Support

How to reach us:

You can e-mail us on the Internet at **ddeloach@msn.com** for “same or next day” service (we check our mail every day).

For technical support by phone, call Darren evenings from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm Central at **903-583-0982**.

Other Great Software Products from DS&S!

DSSTop Takeoff Performance Computer for PalmOS

DSSCalc Flight Computer for Windows and PalmOS

DSSLog Pilot's Logbook for Windows and PalmOS

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Overview

Welcome to DSSTest for PalmOS, the fast track to passing your next FAA Knowledge Exam! Using DSSTest, you can create individualized Study sessions to reinforce your aviation knowledge. Using our software, you'll gain confidence in your ability to pass the written exam and take the next step in your flight training.

With DSSTest you will use numerous Study Sessions to drill yourself on the subject knowledge in each of the question topic sections. Once you have passing scores on every knowledge area, you'll know you are really ready for the final exam, and you are assured of passing!

Each time you do a Study Session, your results are saved in a history file that you can view at any time. You should see steady improvement as you use the software; the history data will let you monitor your progress.

One important element of the FAA exams are the figure booklets with the various diagrams and charts required to answer the questions. With DSSTest for PalmOS, you can choose to either skip all questions which have figures, or you may use the figure booklets or your FAA Exam study guide to view the figures. You may purchase just the figure booklets or the full study guides from us if you need them- just give us a call!

Many questions require the use of a flight computer to answer correctly. If you install our **DSSCalc for PalmOS** product, a single tap on the question screen will launch DSSCalc; when you exit DSSCalc, you are returned back to DSSTest right to the question you were working on! This integrated approach to studying for your FAA Exam will make more productive use of your study time. In addition to making your exam studies quick and easy, you'll also run DSSCalc stand-alone for fast and accurate preflight and in-flight computations!

This manual will give you all the information you need to get started studying for your upcoming FAA Knowledge Exam. After you have installed the software on your Palm® device using HotSync®, you can get information specific to each dialog in the on-line Help.

Program Installation

Before Installing

Before you install DSSTest, make sure your computer meets the following minimum PC requirements:

System Requirements

- A computer running the Palm® HotSync® software
- A PalmOS® version 2.0 or later handheld device; supports color or monochrome devices.
- 100K of free RAM in your handheld device for the DSSTest program, plus up to 157K free for the FAA exam databases.

We welcome any comments you have on the installation and use of our software; future enhancements (and future pilots) depend on your feedback.

Setting Up DSSTest

1. From the Start Menu, start the Palm Desktop Install Tool.
2. Place the Installation Disk in the A: 3.5" floppy disk drive.
3. Click the Add button in the Install Tool and browse to your A: drive.
4. Select the following files to be added at the next HotSync operation: **DSSTEST.PRC** and the FAA Exam database you have purchased (**PRIVATE-DSST.PDB**, **INSTRUMENT-DSST.PDB**, or **COMMERCIAL-DSST.PDB**).
5. Click Done to exit the Install Tool.
6. Place your handheld device in the cradle, and begin a HotSync operation by pressing the button on the cradle. The software will be copied to your Palm device.

DSSTest User Interface Basics

The DSSTest Main Dialog

When you first start DSSTest, you'll see the Main dialog. From here, you can examine your Session history, or create a new Study Session:



There are only two **Menu** trees on the Main Screen:

- **History** — Use the Purge option to delete all of your Session history for the select Question Bank or all Question Banks.
- **Options** — Use the Preferences menu item to set the hardware button usage. About DSSTest gives copyright information. Question Bank Info displays the date the selected Question Bank database was built.

From the Main dialog, you can:

- Select a Question Bank database from the dropdown list, then tap the <New Study Session> button to select the knowledge areas you want to study, or
- Tap the <History> button to view your Session grading history for the selected Question Bank database.

Setting Your Preferences

Tap the Menu button, then choose Options | Preferences to display the Preferences dialog:



If you would like to be able to use the four hardware buttons (calendar, address, todo and memo) to answer each question, just check the checkbox and tap the OK button. Whenever you are on a question, the first 3 buttons will correspond to the A, B and C choices, and the fourth button is equivalent to the “Next Question” button.

Deleting Your Session History

When you want to delete all of your Session grade history, on the Main window tap the Menu button and choose History | Purge:



- Tap the <Cancel> button to abort the delete operation.
- Tap the <Purge> button to delete all session history for the Question Bank database you selected on the Main window.

- Tap the <All> button to delete the session history for all Question Banks, not just the one selected on the Main window.

If you are running low on available memory in your device, purging the session history is a good way to free up some memory for other uses.

Creating a New Study Session

When you tap the <New Study Session> button on the Main window, the New Session dialog is displayed:

DSSTest - New Session

Question Types: ▼ All

Use: ▼ Selected Sections

- ☐ All Chapters
- ☐ 1. PRINCIPLES OF FLIGHT
 - ☒ 1.A. Airplanes
 - ☐ 1.B. Four Forces of Flight
 - ☒ 1.C. Aerodynamics of Maneuvering
 - ☐ 1.D. Stability
- ☐ 2. THE FLIGHT ENVIRONMENT

Questions Selected: 21

OK Cancel

The “Question Types” dropdown has two options:

- All - Selects all questions in each knowledge area.
- Exclude Figures - Selects only those questions which do not have figures, in case you do not have your figure booklet available.

The “Use” dropdown has three options:

- Selected Sections - Selects questions from each section in the listbox below the Use dropdown that is checked. Scroll the list to see all of the available knowledge area sections.
- Questions Missed Last Session - Selects the questions answered incorrectly in the previous Study Session (and does not select questions answered correctly or skipped).
- All Questions Ever Missed - Selects all questions you have ever missed from your current Session history.

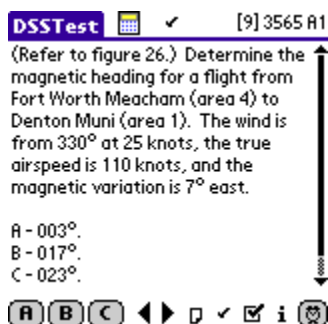
Note that the “Questions Missed Last Session” and “All Questions Ever Missed” force the Question Type to “All”, since the question list is dependent on what your session history has stored in it.

You should set the two dropdown to the desired settings, check the sections you want to study if you are using the “Selected Sections” option, then tap the OK button to begin your Study Session.

NOTE: Once started, DSSTest remains in the Study Session until you tap the End Session button (see the next section in this user manual for more information about the End Session button). Even if you exit the DSSTest program, the next time you start DSSTest it will automatically jump to your open Study Session.

The Study Session Screens

When you have started a session, the Question screen is displayed. The top right corner has the question counter in





[]s followed by the official FAA question number. A check mark in the title area means the question has been “marked” (see below).


The question fills the majority of the window, and may include a scrollbar if needed (you can also use the hardware scroll buttons).


Here are the remaining buttons and their use:

 - Launches DSSCalc Flight Computer, or the default PalmOS calculator if DSSCalc is not present.


 - The three answer buttons. If a question has already been answered, a dark frame will appear around the button corresponding to your chosen answer.


 - Displays the Previous question and Next question. Use these to move among the questions in the session.

 - Jumps to the Next Blank (unanswered) question. Disappears when there are no more blank questions.

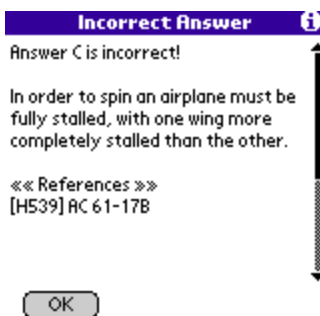
 - Marks a question so that you can easily return to it later. Places a check in the title area of the window. Use the “Next Marked Question” button to jump among the marked questions.

 - Jumps to the Next Marked Question, if any are marked.

 - Displays a Hint for the question. These exist mainly for questions in which you would need to physically lay your plotter down onto the figure; the hint would tell you what you would have found had you done so, in the case where you don't have your plotter available. Not shown unless a hint is available.

 - Ends the Session. The session will be graded, and the History dialog automatically displayed. **You MUST tap this button to exit a session, there is no other way to finish one!**

Answering a question incorrectly displays the Explanation dialog. An explanation is given, along with the FAA Subject Matter code in []s, plus the FAA document to find out more about the question. The subject codes are in a separate Acrobat PDF file in this package.



Viewing Your Session Grade History

Ending a session, or choosing the History button from the Main window, displays the Session History dialog:

DSSTest - Session Grades

Ended: 6/24 14:55 **Grade** Sections

Question Types: All
Use: Questions Missed Last Session

Questions Selected:	7
Grade - Selected:	85 %
Grade - Answered:	85 %
Correct:	6
Incorrect:	1
Not Answered:	0

OK ◀ ▶

At the top of the dialog, the date and time the session was completed is displayed, plus two buttons to select the Grade or Sections page on the display.

The grade for the session is shown, both for all questions selected and also just for the questions answered (instead of skipped).

Use the two arrow buttons at the bottom to move to the Previous and Next history records.

The Sections page shows the sections selected, and in () the count of questions answered incorrectly in that section:

DSSTest - Session Grades

Ended: 6/24 14:55 Grade **Sections**

(Missed) Selected Sections:

(1) 1.D. Stability

OK ◀ ▶

You can use the hardware scroll buttons or the scroll bar to scroll the list if needed.

Taking the Real Exam

First, for many FAA tests (such as the Private Pilot and Instrument Pilot) you must have authorization from your instructor to take the exam; this manual contains a standard Sign-off Form to have your instructor sign that you can print yourself.

If you have successfully completed all of your Sessions with solid scores, you can be confident you will pass your exam: you have been working with the real questions from the FAA Written Test groups, your actual exam will be little different than what you have already studied.

There are several tools which are required for many exams, all of which you can purchase directly from your local dealer or directly from us at DeLoach Sales & Software.

What you should take to your exam:

1. A flight computer, either manual (CSG/E6B) or electronic (such as the Jeppesen Techstar). Your Palm device is not legal for this.
2. A pocket calculator (not necessary if you have an electronic flight computer, as these also do standard computations as well).
3. Extra batteries for calculators (Murphy's Law applies here!).
4. A navigation plotter (Jeppesen PN-1 or equivalent).
5. Your sign-off form.
6. Picture identification of yourself with a signature and your actual residential address (drivers license, etc.).

Pencils and scrap paper are supplied at the examination site.

Following are instructor sign-off sheets you can use; have your instructor sign the sheet before you go to take the exam.

Private Pilot Aeronautical Knowledge Exam

Aeronautical knowledge test: §§ 61.35(a)(1), 61.103(d), and 61.105

I certify that I have reviewed the preparation of _____
_____ for the Private Pilot - Airplane FAA
Knowledge Exam (covering the topics specified in § 61.105) using
appropriate study materials, and that the individual has satisfactorily
completed a study program of the required material and is prepared
for the Private Pilot - Airplane FAA Knowledge Exam.

Signed (Instructor): _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Certificate Number: _____

Certificate Expiration Date: _____

Commercial Pilot Aeronautical Knowledge Exam
Aeronautical knowledge test: §§ 61.35(a)(1), 61.123(c)

I certify that I have reviewed the preparation of _____
_____ for the Commercial Pilot - Airplane FAA
Knowledge Exam (covering the topics specified in § 61.125) using
appropriate study materials, and that the individual has satisfactorily
completed a study program of the required material and is prepared
for the Commercial Pilot - Airplane FAA Knowledge Exam.

Signed (Instructor): _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Certificate Number: _____

Certificate Expiration Date: _____

Instrument Pilot Aeronautical Knowledge Exam

Aeronautical knowledge test: §§ 61.35(a)(1), 61.65(a) and (b)

I certify that I have reviewed the preparation of _____
_____ for the Instrument Pilot - Airplane FAA
Knowledge Exam (covering the topics specified in § 61.65(b))
using appropriate study materials, and that the individual has
satisfactorily completed a study program of the required material
and is prepared for the Instrument - Airplane FAA Knowledge
Exam.

Signed (Instructor): _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Certificate Number: _____

Certificate Expiration Date: _____

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