

Mountain Flying Rules of Thumb

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- Get instruction from experienced backcountry pilots or take one of the clinics.
- Stay Current - Complacency Kills
- Know your limits – Set you own personal limits
- Do not fly in the Mountains with winds aloft in excess of 30 Knots - less with less experience.
- Plan to arrive / depart by 10 AM or late evening when winds are calm and temperature is cooler.
- Always have an out
 - Be able to turn to lowering terrain.
 - Be able to turn 180 in Canyons.
- 50% Runway Rule - if not at 70% rotate IAS at 50% of runway length - ABORT.
- Approach ridges at 45⁰ a angle before crossing.
- In Canyons - always keep river under your arm pit.
- Life is Good – so is Lift – Look for it
- Land Up River – Take Off Down River
- **WIND AND HEAT ARE NOT YOUR FRIENDS**