Understanding Flight

By David W. Anderson, Scott Eberhardt


Understanding Flight, Second Edition, explains the principles of aeronautics in terms, descriptions, and illustrations that make sense without complicated mathematics. Updated to include helicopter flight fundamentals and aircraft structures, this aviation classic is required reading for new pilots, students, engineers, and anyone fascinated with flight. Understanding Flight, Second Edition, covers: Physics of flight, Wing design and configuration, Stability and control, Propulsion, High-speed flight, Performance and safety, Aerodynamic testing, Helicopters and autogyros, Aircraft structures and materials.

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This book provides a completely understandable and coherent explanation of flight. It doesn't bog you down in math and intuitively describes the basics of aerodynamics including performance, stability, and control. Highly recommended! Thorsten. Status: Nov. 24th, 2009. Quite a few aircraft in FlightGear are capable of supersonic flight. For some of them, notably modern fighter aircraft, supersonic flight does not require any specific action by the pilot. Nevertheless, it may be useful to understand why the aircraft behaves somewhat different when the speed of sound is approached. For other aircraft, such as the Concorde or the SR-71 Blackbird, operating the aircraft in supersonic flight means following elaborate climb-out