

Amphibious Aircraft Gear Management Best Practices

Sample Mnemonics Checklist

The following checklist is provided as a sample and may not be accurate or complete for your specific aircraft, depending on the equipment installed. Please refer to your AFM/POH supplements and assistance from professional instructors experienced in your equipment to develop a checklist for your aircraft.

This checklist is organized according to the phase of flight that relates to amphib gear-position actions. Each phase has a trigger, or cue, that initiates a memorized mnemonic checklist. Also included are comments and best practices appropriate for each phase of flight.

Before Takeoff

Trigger: Entering runup area

Mnemonic: CIGAR

- Controls – Free and clear
- Instruments – Check each instrument for proper setting
- Gas – Fullest tank
- **Gear – Remind yourself when departing a runway to raise gear immediately upon positive rate of climb**
- Attitude – Check trim, set flaps
- Runup – Perform runup
- Radio – Make radio call
- Rudders – Raise water rudders

Takeoff

Trigger: Positive rate of climb

Action: Raise gear

Comments:

- **It is of vital importance to amphib safety to get the gear up as soon as it is safe to do so after departure.**
- Raising the gear is the first action that should be taken upon runway departure. Don't touch anything until after the gear is raised.
- It is imperative that the gear is raised even if the pilot is remaining in the pattern. Amphib training is not only practicing touch and goes, but also practicing the habits of safe amphib procedures.

Cruise

Trigger: Power reduction

Mnemonic: GUMP

- Gas – Confirm fuel selector position
- Undercarriage – Check to make sure gear is up
- Mixture – Lean if necessary
- Flaps – Check for proper setting

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Water Landing

Trigger	Action
Trigger #1 - 1st gear check on downwind or first flap application for straight-in landing	Recite GUMP-C: Verify gear up for water landing
Trigger #2 - 2nd gear check on base or when on stabilized approach for straight-in landing	Recite GUMP-C: Verify gear up for water landing
Trigger #3 - 3rd gear check on final approach or flaps moved to final landing setting	Recite GUMP-C: Verify gear up for water landing

Mnemonic: GUMP-C

- Gas – Check for fullest tank
- Undercarriage – Position gear on 1st trigger and check gear on 2nd and 3rd triggers
- Mixture – Full rich
- Prop – Prop set to high RPM
- Carb Heat – Apply carb heat (if applicable)

Runway Landing

Trigger	Action
Trigger #1 - 1st gear check on downwind or first flap application for straight in landing	Recite GUMP-C: Lower gear for runway landing
Trigger #2 - 2nd gear check on base or when on stabilized approach for straight-in landing	Recite GUMP-C: Check gear down for runway landing
Trigger #3 - 3rd gear on final approach or flaps moved to final landing setting	Recite GUMP-C: Check gear down for runway landing

Mnemonic: GUMP-C

- Gas – Check for fullest tank
- Undercarriage – Position gear on 1st trigger and check gear on 2nd and 3rd triggers
- Mixture – Full rich
- Prop – Prop set to high RPM
- Carb Heat – Apply carb heat (if applicable)

Comments:

- It is always recommended that a standard pattern approach be flown. Recognizing that this is not always possible, it is important to set triggers to ensure there are three GUMP checks prior to landing for a straight-in or non-standard approach.
- When performing the GUMP-C check, always point to surface and verbally state water or runway landing.