# HOW TO ACE

Australian Defence Force Aircrew Recruiting



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### **Preface**

You start with a bag full of luck and an empty bag of experience. The trick is to fill the bag of experience before you empty the bag of luck.

#### ~Old, Bold Pilot Saying

Congratulations! You are now on your way to becoming a rock star at ADF aircrew recruiting. You have purchased an eBook, which gives you the real time knowledge you will need to pass Australian Defence Force Officer Aircrew (OA) recruiting and aptitude testing the first time. Not only is all the information you need right here in the one location, but you will get the rundown of how it all works from start to finish and how to pass it. How do we know this? Well, much of the content of this eBook is based primarily on the personal experiences of the Get Your Wings Team as students, officers, ADF QFI (Qualified Flying Instructors) and flying/officer supervisory staff at various training/recruitment units throughout the ADF. Further, we have experience of numerous squadron postings and delivered military aviation ground and airborne instruction in single engine piston, advanced military fast jet, tactical transport, rotary wing and turbo prop aircraft. We will equip you with the inside information that you otherwise will not necessarily be told from those who have delivered that training. Let the Get Your Wings Team help you reach your dream.

We offer you, the budding ADF future OA, the benefit of the years of techniques, tips, anecdotes, gleaned from thousands of flights and interviews with trainees all here in the one place. We have done our best to condense our body of accumulated experience to maximize your chance to fly through the aircrew recruiting process and become an ADF OA.

#### How to Ace Australian Defence Force Aircrew Recruiting was written to:

- Detail the whole process from start to finish
- Assist you to ensure the ADF eligibility requirements to join as OA are met
- Ensure you are fully prepared for each phase of the process so there are no surprises
- Give unique first-hand guidance and tips on passing the ADF OA recruitment process
- Detail preparation techniques for each of the testing regimes
- Act as a one-stop-shop for individuals looking to become ADF OA
- Cater to students, uni grads, civilian pilots and serving members alike
- Provide background descriptions of the units involved in the OA recruitment process
- Provide a technical introduction to the Pilatus PC-21 from a pilot's perspective
- Provide further reading guidance and recommendations in regards to the entire OA
  application process including aptitude testing, interview techniques training, officer training,
  pilot's course and life as an OA in the ADF

This eBook, How to Ace Australian Defence Force Aircrew Recruiting, has been written by ADF Qualified Flying Instructors (QFI) to arm you with the knowledge needed to front up on day 1 ready to go with all your ducks lined up. You will be ready for your formal ADF military application for service, but we don't stop there. Most of the information available up to this point is available through recruiting itself or online. This is what everyone else will have. The Get Your Wings team will mention what you will not be told. For instance, it is important to be prepared for aircrew aptitude testing as soon as you apply. The reason for this is that when you successfully meet entry requirements, you may be sent for this aptitude testing quite quickly. We tell you what to expect and provide examples.

We even have an app online for the express purpose of practicing for this aircrew aptitude testing regime. The **Get Your Wings Pilot Aptitude Training App** has proven very successful in equipping candidates with the skills they will need to perform well in this critical phase of aircrew testing. Our app is dedicated specifically to improve your performance and to be a star at specific aircrew battery aptitude

testing and defence interviews including the selection board. It will allow you to prepare easily and affordably in your own home as it encompasses over 850 questions on the sorts of specific testing that you will face. It allows you to keep score and to record improvements. The app also neatly simulates time pressure with its in-built countdown clock, which you will meet on testing days. More often than not during your testing, the time limit is not quite sufficient, so most people will be forced to rush a little. Sometimes you can even hear the 'tick, tick, tick' as you go. Using the app will grow your confidence as you become accustomed to aircrew aptitude type questions under a simulated time pressure. Whilst we will give you some advice and examples of the types of questions here in this eBook, this app allows you to interact and engage under time constraints, which we can't do in an eBook. It will probably be the best \$7 or so you can spend to get yourself up to speed.



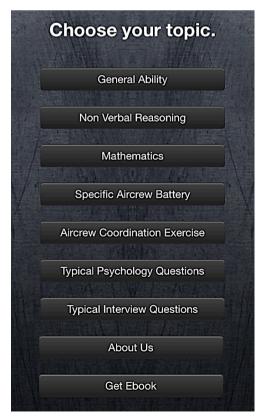


The app covers these typical topics that you will be examined on including:

- General IQ ability, general prioritization and mental arithmetic
- Verbal/non verbal reasoning and logical thinking
- Mathematical ability to think with numbers quickly and accurately without calculators
- Specific aircrew aptitude battery tests including cockpit instrument recognition/3D spatial orientation
- Aircrew co-ordination exercises tilted ball hand-eye coordination
- Typical psychology questions prepare for curly questions about yourself and test your motivations
- Typical Interview Questions interesting questions that you should be prepared for

You are now at a distinct advantage to those who will see this style of aircrew testing for the first time during their testing day. Why not get it right the first time?







It is really quite simple. Read this eBook and practise using the app and you will have a very good chance at passing. It's no picnic though and nothing is guaranteed. You will be challenged. A whim or a vague interest in flying will be found out. You must have a burning desire to make it and a determined vision of yourself as an ADF OA and leader in a Military environment. So, saddle up for some hard work but by golly, it's worth it. Having those wings or 'fun tickets' pinned on your chest will no doubt be one of the most satisfying personal achievements you have yet experienced. You will then be in for a very exciting life flying whatever aircraft the ADF will offer you. They are all good, believe us. There is no such thing as a dud flying job. It is just the beginning of a career without equal. It truly is a life that is challenging, fascinating, exciting and above all, rewarding. When you hear people say that it must be the best job in the world, they're right! Every ADF OA you ever meet will tell you that all the hard work is worth it and that it is achievable!

#### Sidenote

The information within this eBook is based on personal experience, extensive investigation of current recruitment practices and interviews with recent applicants, students and currently serving ADF OA's. Every effort has been made to provide you with the latest, most accurate and up to date information possible to arm you with the tools you will need to be very competitive at recruiting, no matter what service you choose. However, with the passage of time, some of the information contained herein may change. Therefore, the authors cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information and it should be remembered that this eBook is published as a guide only. The authors have tried, where available, to provide a reference, which gives the reader an opportunity to obtain the latest information available. We want to instil in you a desire to learn and to know more, so we will give you an opportunity to do so when we can.

During this eBook some of the terms are masculine such the use of the term he or his. Wherever the term his is used, it may be substituted for his/her. We have simplified the use of these terms to one gender at times to aid in document simplicity.

#### Some useful abbreviations that you will encounter in this eBook:

ABM Air Battle Manager

ACMC Aviation Candidate Management Centre

ACO Air Combat Officer

ADFA Australian Defence Force Academy

AEM Airborne Exposure Module
AFM Aviation Fundamentals Module
AMP Aviation Motivation Program
ASP Aviation Screening Program

ATC Air Traffic Controller

AVMED Institute of Aviation Medicine AVWO Aviation Warfare Officer (Navy) BFTS Basic Flying Training School

CFS Central Flying School
CM Control Module

COMSURV Combat Survival Course
DFR Defence Force Recruiting

DFRC Defence Force Recruiting Centre

DI Defence Interview
ENT Ear Nose Throat
FAC Forward Air Control

FJP Fast Jet Pilot

FSP Flight Screening Program

FWP Fixed Wing Pilot



GSO General Service Officer

GYW Get Your Wings

HATS Helicopter Aircrew Training System

IET Initial Employment Training

IO Interview Officer

JTAC Joint Terminal Attack Controller

MA Mission Aircrew

MACTS Military Aviation Cognitive Training System

MEC Mission Elementary Course

MPRO Maritime Patrol and Response Officer

NCO Non Commissioned Officer NEOC New Entry Officer's Course

OA Officer Aviation

OASP Officer Aviation Selection Process

OSB Officer Selection Board
OTS Officer Training School
PTS Pilot Training System

RANC Royal Australian Naval College

RMC Royal Military College

ROSO Return Of Service Obligations SACT School of Air Traffic Control

SACTU Surveillance and Control Training Unit

SSO Specialist Service Officer
UAV Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
WSO Weapons Systems Officer
1FTS No. 1 Flying Training School
2FTS No. 2 Flying Training School



Remember this is the only eBook about aceing the ADF Aircrew recruitment process actually written by ADF Pilots. If you have anything in particular that you would like to see in this eBook, please drop us a line from below.

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#### **About The Get Your Wings Team**

The Get Your Wings team consist of ex ADF pilots all who are still flying with a combined military service experience of some 80 years and 25000 hours flying ADF Military aircraft. This consists of significant operational squadron experience including VIP Jets, Heavy Military Tactical and Strategic platforms, fast jet and rotary wing operations as well as extensive exposure to Defence Force recruiting and ADF aircrew and officer training. All members of GYW are ex Qualified Flying Instructors (QFI) with over 12 000 combined flying hours of airborne instruction on CT-4, Cap 10, PC-9, PC-21 and Hawk. Between us, we have had postings as operational squadron pilots, QFI, executives and Directing Staff at all ADF Flying Schools delivering flying and ground training and the RAAF Roulettes Air Force Formation Aerobatics Demonstration Team at CFS - the unit responsible for training QFI's. Collective experience also includes ground based instructional postings to ADF Recruiting as well as Ground Instructor and Supervisory positions at Officer Training School (OTS) and the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA). We don't show photos of ourselves or even disclose our names. But we are real people and we have done this stuff for some time now and there is no substitute for years of cockpit experience and there is nowhere else in Australia that you will find this information in the one place. We wish you the best in your endeavours and hope that we have gone some way to help you in your dream to take up one of the most rewarding jobs in the world today. Good luck and fly safe!



"Thanks for reading and good luck with your aspirations"

Mal Bloggs

