

Common Aviation Misspellings

Tape this list to the wall next to your computer. Consult it often!

Duel = A gunfight or swordfight.

Dual = Two of something. Dual instruction, Dual AHRS, Dual EFIS displays.

Hanger = Something you hang your clothes on.

Hangar = Something you park your plane in.

Manuel = A man's name.

Manual = An informational publication. Also, something done by hand. *"I should probably read the autopilot manual."* *"I have manual trim in my airplane."*

Navel = A bellybutton. *"I'm sitting here contemplating my navel."*

Naval = Pertaining to a seaborne military branch. *"I love Naval aviation."*

*(Helpful Tip: If you're using the above words in an aviation sense, they are spelled with the letter "a" instead of "e". Just remember: **A, as in aviation.**)*

Break = A discontinuity in something, or a pause. *"There's a break in my oil line."* *"I need to take a break."* *"Let's break for lunch."*

Brake = A device used to stop an airplane or car. *"My brake line is leaking."* *"What kind of brakes did you install?"* *"Set the parking brake."*

Chalk = A dry, mineral substance used for marking and drawing. *"Snap a chalk line on the floor under the fuselage."*

Chock = A block or wedge placed under a tire to prevent a vehicle from moving. *"Chock the plane before it rolls away."*

Course = Direction or path through the air. *"The inbound course is 120 degrees."*

Coarse = A grade of sandpaper. *"Give me a sheet of coarse-grit."*

Flare = A maneuver performed just before landing. Also, a shape given to the end of aluminum tubing so it will seal against a fitting. *"That was a firm landing. I should have flared a bit more."*

Flair = Talent, attractive quality, pizzazz or showmanship. Also, pieces of flashy jewelry often worn by waitresses. *"She's a got a flair for the dramatic."*

Lightning = Electrical discharges in the atmosphere during a storm. *"The lightning flashed and startled me."* *"The P-38 Lightning was my favorite WWII fighter."*

Lightening (Holes) = Holes designed to lighten a structure. *"Cut some lightening holes in that panel."*

Peddle = To sell. *"I'm going to peddle airplane parts on the internet."*

Pedal = A device you step on with your feet to steer, yaw, or brake an airplane. *"He painted his rudder pedals black."*

Role = The function of something. *"What role does the TSA play in national security?"*

Roll = An aerobatic maneuver. *"That was a nice aileron roll."*

Sight = Vision, or the appearance of something. *"When I get tired, my eyesight gets worse."* *"That formation fly-by was quite a sight."*

Site = The location of something. *"This is the site of the first powered airplane flight."* *"My website is open for business."*

Toe = Part of your foot. Also, the angle of an airplane's landing gear. *"That landing gear has too much toe-in."* *"I stubbed my toe on the leg of the workbench."*

Tow = To move an airplane on the ground with a machine or by hand. *"Let's tow the biplane over there."*

Vain = Having no value; ineffectual; having excessive pride. *"All his efforts to remove the stripped screw were in vain."* *"He's so vain, he wears a flight suit to bed."*

Vane = A device that senses or controls the flow of air or fluid. *"The wind vane on top of the hangar shows there's a crosswind today."* *"The jet engine's inlet guide vanes were damaged when the bird hit them."*

Vein = Blood vessels that carry blood toward the heart. *"The FAA inspector was so mad, he had a vein sticking out of his temple."*

Yolk = The yellow stuff inside an egg.

Yoke = The control column in an airplane.

...And finally, a non-aviation one, just because many people get it wrong:

Lose = To misplace something, have it taken away, or come in last place. *"Do you think he'll lose his license?"* *"If I hear that song again, I'm going to lose my mind."* *"If you drink and fly, you will lose."*

Loose = Not tight. *"That screw is loose."* *"That guy's a loose cannon."*