



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Safety around mustered helicopters



**Wait for the pilot to acknowledge
before approaching.**



If swirling dust, grit or snow is a possibility, remain clear of the helicopter landing and take-off area until visibility is restored.

If blinded by swirling dust, grit or snow, and unable to confidently evacuate away from the helicopter, **STOP** – crouch lower, or sit down and wait for assistance.



When riding a horse or motorbike away from the helicopter, move slowly in front where the pilot can see you.

Be careful not to throw rocks from motorbikes into the main or tail rotors.



Objects swept along by rotor wash can be dangerous.

Ensure bags are done up and loose objects on your person such as hats are secured. Secure loose ground objects in the take-off and landing area.



A good rule of thumb when working close to cattle: use either helicopter or stockman—never both.

The pilot cannot see directly under or behind. Beware the tail rotor! Be especially careful yarding up.



Beware the main rotor blade.

Do not approach a helicopter with anything taller than yourself. **Never** drive or ride under spinning rotor blades.



Never exit or enter a hovering helicopter (unless specifically trained and approved to do so).



Do not move under the blades when the helicopter is starting up or winding down.



Never use avgas drums for any other purpose.

Always lie unused drums on their side. If there is any doubt over a drum, or fuel quality, let the pilot know.



On sloping ground, always approach or leave on the downslope side for maximum rotor clearance.



Do not touch the helicopter, especially the bubble—they are made of plastic and scratch easily.

General

Watch the helicopter and the pilot when they come close to you. When placing fuel in the paddock, place it where it can be easily seen and accessed and clear of trees, wires etc.

On the radio: listen carefully to directions, help the pilot when you can. Allow time for a few breaks if possible—help reduce pilot fatigue.

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Use your common sense and keep you and your pilot safe.

Search and rescue hotline to report missing aircraft—**1800 815 257**

This guide has been prepared by CASA Safety Promotion for educational purposes only and should be used in conjunction with current operational documents.