



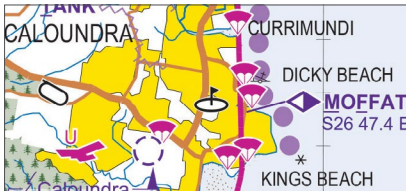
Flying near parachuting operations



Parachuting is a popular activity with jumps regularly occurring up to flight level 140, inside and outside of controlled airspace, into drop zones (DZ) at all types of aerodromes and other locations.

At most locations, parachuting and other aircraft will operate together, and it is essential that all pilots and parachutists are aware of each other's operations to improve efficiency and safety. Parachuting operations may be notified by:

- » ERSAs for particular aerodromes
- » aerodrome and/or airspace NOTAMS
- » markings on aviation charts.



GENERAL

- » All drop zones require permission from the land owner and approval by the relevant Part 105 approved self-administering organisation (ASAO).
- » Drop zone dimensions are determined on the type of operations and skill level of the parachutist. Safety distances are included in the DZ dimensions to maintain a safe distance from hazards.
- » Although parachuting through cloud is permitted in some instances, it requires specific approval from CASA or the relevant Part 105 ASAO.
- » Parachutists in free fall are almost

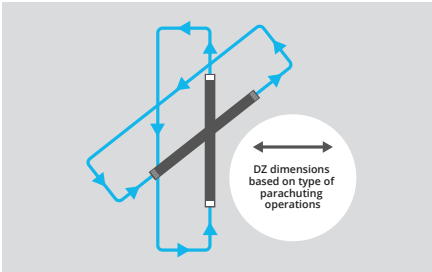
impossible to see, so pilots are advised to avoid overflying an aerodrome with an active drop zone. Communication with the parachuting aircraft is essential to avoid flying into a drop zone area.

COMMUNICATION AND APPROVAL

- » The drop pilot will make broadcasts regarding their intention to drop at least 2 minutes prior to the drop.
- » Broadcasts will be on all frequencies affected by the drop (e.g. ATC, area frequency and CTAF).
- » At non-controlled aerodromes which require radio carriage, there will be an additional broadcast at least 4 minutes prior to drop.
- » In controlled airspace (including towered aerodromes) approval to drop is required from ATC.
- » At locations where radio carriage is not mandatory, the parachute operator will use a ground control assistant at the drop zone to liaise with the drop pilot about any observed ground or air based hazards.

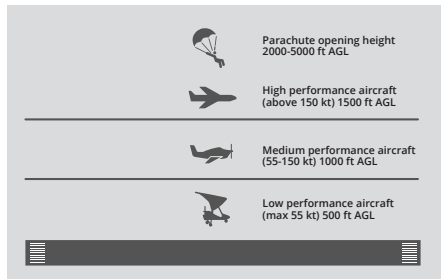
DROP ZONES ON AERODROMES (NON-TOWERED)

- » Ground operations and airside access requirements for parachuting operations are specified by the aerodrome operator.
- » Additional communication and scheduling requirements are required to ensure parachuting operations do not interfere with scheduled air transport.
- » At certified aerodromes, the drop will be conducted, keeping the parachutists on the non active side of the circuit. No drops will be made in conflict with any known traffic (including aircraft on an instrument approach).



It's imperative that you maintain an active listen-out on the correct frequency, communicate with the jump pilot and coordinate your own separation with the parachuting operation.

- » At non-certified aerodromes (e.g. an Aircraft Landing Area (ALA)), although the pilot will still make the required broadcasts prior to drop, the requirements to keep parachutists on the dead-side and to avoid known traffic do not apply.
 - » Parachutists will have a proposed track to return to the DZ once their parachute is open – generally opening on the upwind side of the landing area and returning by the most direct route. The exact opening point will depend on the prevailing conditions and their flight path may require crossing over the runway prior to landing. The parachutist is trained to, and will be maintaining a lookout, while flying.
 - » In addition to listening out for the parachute operations, maintain a lookout. The parachutists may be difficult to see until their parachute opens – this will normally be between 2,000–5,000 ft AGL (e.g. above circuit height).
 - » If you are planning to fly at an aerodrome where parachuting is conducted, liaise with the parachute operator to ensure that all operations are coordinated and separation is maintained.
- » If (after pre-flight planning) you are still unsure of the status of parachuting operations, use your radio to confirm (either on CTAF, Area Frequency or ask ATC). If parachuting is in progress, coordinate separation with the drop pilot.
 - » On arrival to an aerodrome, if you become aware of parachuting operations in progress, don't join the circuit until you can confirm that it is clear to do so.



TIPS FOR PILOTS

- » Before you go flying, check whether parachuting operations will be taking place at your departure or arrival aerodromes, or en route.
- » Ensure you are actively monitoring the correct frequencies so that you are aware of any parachute operations and can communicate with the jump pilot if required to maintain separation.
- » In addition to actively monitoring (and using) all appropriate frequencies, maintain a look out for parachute operations.

More information on parachuting operations is available at AIP ENR 5.5 and Part 105 of CASR