Impromptu Hold Diagram

AIR ECHO ALPHA 51, LLC.

Objective: Explore methods to diagram a holding pattern that is not published on a chart.

Notes

❑ When given a clearance to hold in a non-published holding pattern, create a diagram to help visualize the hold

❑ Never accept a holding clearance without an EFC

❑ After creating the diagram note your position relative to the fix and holding pattern and plan the proper entry method

❑ When you reach the fix you will turn in the cardinal direction indicated within your clearance

❑ A standard holding pattern below 14,000 ft should take 4 minutes to complete one circuit. Calculate fuel reserve depletion due to hold

❑ How will this hold alter your fuel reserves?

❑ ATC Reports: Reaching/leaving holding fix

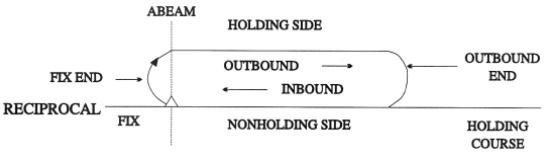
The Holding Pattern

❑ A holding pattern is a predetermined maneuver designed to keep an aircraft within a specified airspace. It is a delaying procedure, due to: weather, congestion, separation or coordination

❑ Basic elements of a holding pattern include:

- The holding fix (VOR, NDB, OM, Intersection ,DME)
- Direction from the fix (N,E,S,W)
- Line of position (radial or bearing)
- Direction of turns (standard = right)
- Leg length (standard = 1 min)
- Holding Alt & AS
- EFC

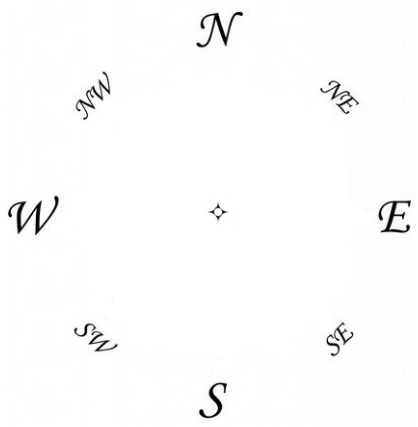
❑ Descriptive Terms



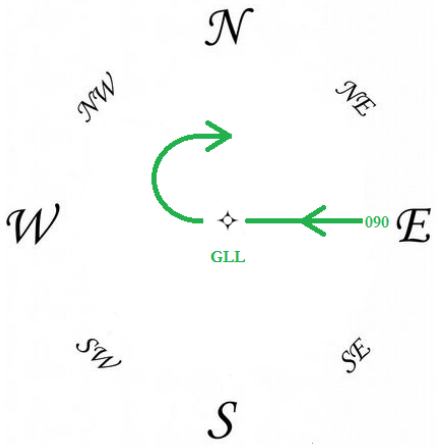
❑ Sample Holding Clearance:
"Cleared to the Gill VOR, hold east on the zero niner zero radial, standard turns, one min legs. Maintain 7500. Expect further clearance at 1905".

Impromptu Hold Diagram/Sketch

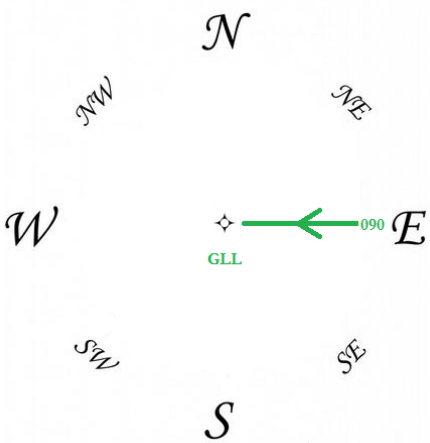
❑ Draw the four cardinal directions with North at the top. Then sketch the fix in the center.



❑ Draw the direction of turns at the fix



❑ Draw a line from the fix to the cardinal direction described in the holding clearance. Then place an arrow on it that points towards the fix.



❑ Note any other details (leg length, Alt, AS, EFC, Airway, current position relative to fix)