

## Training

I have always liked those little tricks that can help you remember things and keep you out of trouble. Maybe that's because I am not smart enough to keep myself out of trouble without them.

Years ago at work, I looked stupid when I spelled the name of the town "Tucson", as in Arizona, incorrectly in a report (it is also the name of a submarine we built). Then I realized that if I just always thought of it as "TUC-SON" I'd always get it right and it worked perfectly for years.

Another little trick is the old saying "letter 'I' before 'E' except after 'C' ". That one usually works except that there are some exceptions that I usually don't remember. But, at least I *usually* get it right and the ones that I still get wrong, most other people don't know either, so I can slip by without looking...you guessed it...too stupid!

A plumber once told me that he could always remember which way to tighten threaded pipes, etc. by remembering the expression "Righty – tighty; lefty – loosey" or something similar! That one still troubles me because I don't think I want a plumber working for me that can't even remember which way to tighten a bolt or fitting!!! The same guy also over-tightened and broke the couplings on the line to my ice-maker and I had to go back and fix it myself.

So why did I spend four paragraphs babbling about things that don't seem to pertain to flying at all? Just to help you remember the following little trick.

I will say right away that this trick is not original to me. It was suggested to me by Dave Heape. I don't know where it originally started, but it is sure worth remembering. It pertains to being sure that your ailerons move in the right direction!

We have all heard stories about guys getting this wrong and rolling their plane on take-off and putting it right into the ground. It is easy to do because the natural instinct when it starts to roll is to correct it. But, if the ailerons are reversed, all you do is give more input in the wrong direction! And, in many cases, we are not quick enough to realize the error and to fly it around and to land using reverse inputs.

And so the trick is: When you do your radio range check prior to flying each day, wrap your little finger around the right stick on your transmitter and point your thumb up into the air. Then just be sure that as you move the stick to either side, the corresponding aileron points up just like your thumb! **Thumb to the right...right aileron up. Thumb to the left...left aileron up.** A simple little trick that works every time!

So, the lesson this time is; be sure to use and benefit from any and all little tricks, and, as always... remember to try something new each time you fly!

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