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## Student Pilot Suggested Equipment List

Congratulations on making the decision to begin flight training! It's no secret that learning to fly is insanely expensive and a lot of hard work and dedication, and like every student, I tried to cut costs during my training. Here are some suggestions I have based on my own experience to save you time and money as well as equipment I would suggest buying.

### Required Equipment

- An Aviation headset (borrow someone's if you have nice friends... more on this in next list)
- A sectional for the area where you'll be flying (VFR/IFR as appropriate)
- Airport Facility Directories and Approach Plates (as mentioned below, ForeFlight does all this for you)
- A logbook
  - I'd recommend the Jeppesen Professional Pilot Logbook
  - There are free versions on the internet, however I keep a paper logbook and get endorsements there and then transpose it to ForeFlight.
    - If you'd like some suggestions on *free* logbook software, look at [EasyPilotLogbook.com](http://EasyPilotLogbook.com) or [MyFlightBook.com](http://MyFlightBook.com).
- Plotter
  - I'd recommend the ASA or Gleim Rotating Plotter
- E6B
  - I'd recommend the ASA E6B Paper Flight Computer
- Fuel Tester (GATS jar) and Dipstick
- Flashlight
- FAA Textbooks (free digital downloads at [www.FAA.gov](http://www.FAA.gov), but I'd recommend buying printed versions)
- Flight timer or wrist watch with second hand/timer function

### Suggested Equipment

- Bose A20 headset
  - These are very expensive but will save your hearing and make flight training more enjoyable. This is an optional item because anything cheap will work, but these are a great investment for the aspiring professional aviator.
- iPad, GPS/mobile data enabled
  - With any iPad which is GPS enabled you can opt **not** to pay for cellular data and the GPS function will still work. I personally have an iPad 10" with GPS and cellular data because this allows me to get weather, traffic, etc. information on the go, file flight plans from a café, watch Netflix in hotels without wifi, etc. It's a good investment, just depends on how much you'd like to spend.
- ForeFlight
  - Perhaps most important, ForeFlight is an iPad specific app which is now FAA approved for use as an Electronic Flight Bag. This replaces paper charts, approach plates, shows traffic if connected to the plane's ADS-B or a Stratus device, etc. This app also has logbook and checklist features.
- Headlamp with red and white mode
  - This is a true lifesaver during some night missions.
- Handheld Aviation Radio
  - I'd recommend the Yaesu FTA-550AA NAV/COM Aviation Radio
- VFR/IFR metal kneeboard
- IFR training glasses or a "hood" ("foggles" are good but some people, myself included, prefer a view limiting hood)
- Sporty's, Gleim, or King Schools video courses
- Sheppard Air test prep software for all written tests