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ONE COMMUNITY.

NIGHT TRAINING

For night flying, AMA requires that aircraft be equipped with anti-collision lighting that can be seen from 3 statute miles away unless it poses a hazard or distraction to the operator. Other lighting must be used in such a way that allows you to determine attitude and direction of flight. Hand-held illumination systems by themselves are inadequate for night flying operations. Night flight presents visual perception challenges. Since your vision and depth perception can be altered in darkness, night flying requires that you need to complete AMA video training through [modelaircraft.org/night-operations](https://www.modelaircraft.org/night-operations), through introductory pilots, or by a club's safety officer.

“Night” means the time between the end of evening civil twilight and the beginning of morning civil twilight.

It's important to know that there are many factors that can affect your vision when flying at night:

- *Identifying objects in the daylight is relatively easy for most. However, detail resolution is poor at night and identification of objects can be more difficult.*
- *Things like fog, smoke, dust, and ice particles can have more of an impact on your vision at night than in the daytime.*
- *Eye disorders, such as near sidedness, farsightedness, or astigmatism may also have more of an impact on your night vision.*
- *Just as in daylight, your night vision can be impacted by stresses such as self-medication, alcohol consumption, and fatigue.*
- *Flickering lights, anti-collision lights, or other aircraft lights, may cause interference with brain function. Pilots can turn off anti-collision lights if it creates such a hazard.*
- *Learning to fly safely at night takes time and experience. Model aviators should practice their maneuvers at night including straight-and-level flight, climbs and descents, level turns, climbing and descending turns, and steep turns.*
- *Everyone has their own their abilities and limitations, and night flying requires that pilots remain aware of these limitations. Be sure to spend time on preparation and planning before flying at night.*

