

AVIATION ALPHABET

In aviation, letter pronunciation can be so easily misunderstood (such as hearing an “S” for an “F”), especially when speaking over a radio. So the letters in aviation are spoken using the International Phonetic Alphabet (“Aviation Alphabet”), developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization to allow aviation personnel around the world to communicate clearly. This alphabet substitutes an entire word to represent one letter. The first letter of the word is the letter of the alphabet it represents. It would be difficult to confuse “Sierra” (the letter “S”) for the letter “F” (said as “Foxtrot”).



A Alpha	N November
B Bravo	O Oscar
C Charlie	P Papa
D Delta	Q Quebec
E Echo	R Romeo
F Foxtrot	S Sierra
G Golf	T Tango
H Hotel	U Uniform
I India	V Victor
J Juliet	W Whiskey
K Kilo	X X-Ray
L Lima	Y Yankee
M Mike	Z Zulu



Can you spell your name using the “secret code” Aviation Alphabet?

Source: Women in Aviation, International -

<https://www.wai.org/sites/default/files/assets/EducationKit/7%20aviation%20terms.pdf>