



# Australian Airspace Structure

		CONTROLLED				NON-CONTROLLED
		CLASS A	CLASS C	CLASS D	CLASS E	CLASS G
		Above FL245 outside radar coverage Above FL180 within radar coverage	Terminal areas with ATC services En route between major centres	Regional and some metropolitan CTR and associated low-level CTA steps	Within continental Australia outside radar coverage above FL180 where Class A base is FL245 Within radar coverage in specific locations or corridors under Class C or Class A airspace. Generally base 8500 ft AMS Surrounding or overlying some CTR Some low-level terminal airspace when the associated TWR is closed	Airspace which is not Class A-E <b>Note:</b> Conditions of operating in Restricted Areas over-ride the existing Airspace Classification
IFR	Radio RQ	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
	Transponder RQ	YES—including ADS-B OUT	YES—including ADS-B OUT	YES—including ADS-B OUT	YES—including ADS-B OUT	YES—including ADS-B OUT
	SUBJ ATC clearance	YES	YES	YES	YES, (unless conducting IFR pick-up)	NO
	Separation provided	All aircraft	All aircraft	IFR from IFR and Special VFR, (except during a VFR departure, or when conducting VFR climb or descent)	IFR from IFR (except during a VFR departure, or when conducting VFR climb or descent)	NO
	Service provided	ATC service	ATC service	ATC service for separation from IFR Traffic information about VFR flights (and traffic avoidance advice on request)	ATC service and traffic information about known VFR flights as far as practicable	Traffic information about other IFR and known VFR flights as far as practicable
Speed limits	N/A	N/A	250 KIAS max (unless the pilot informs ATC that a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons) 200 KIAS max within 4 nm and 2500 ft AAL, (except with ATC approval)	250 KIAS max below 10,000 ft AMSL (unless a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons)	250 KIAS max below 10,000 ft AMSL (unless a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons)	
VFR	Radio RQ		YES	YES	YES	Above 5000 ft AMSL Vicinity of CERT, REG or MIL or other AD specified in <i>ERSA</i> At or BLW the higher of 3000 ft AMSL or 1000 ft AGL—when OPR clear of cloud in reduced VMC
	Transponder RQ		YES—within SSR coverage	Not RQ, but always ON if fitted	YES—unless aircraft is unable to power a transponder	YES—for flights above 10,000 ft AMSL Always ON if fitted
	SUBJ ATC clearance		YES	YES—by clearance or establishment of two-way communications	NO	NO
	Separation provided		VFR from IFR	NO	NO	NO
	Service provided	VFR not permitted	ATC service for separation from IFR VFR/VFR traffic information (and traffic avoidance advice on request)	IFR/VFR and VFR/VFR traffic information (and traffic avoidance advice on request)	On REQ—Surveillance information service (SIS) and flight following—ATC workload permitting	On REQ - Surveillance information service (SIS) and flight following, ATC workload permitting
	Flight visibility		8 km at or ABV 10,000 ft AMSL 5000 m BLW 10,000 ft AMSL	5000 m	8 km at or ABV 10,000 ft AMSL 5000 m BLW 10,000 ft AMSL	All aircraft at or ABV 10,000 ft AMSL 8000 m All aircraft BLW 10,000 ft AMSL 5000 m Helicopters below 700 ft AGL See conditions in AIP Balloons BLW 1500 ft AGL See conditions in AIP
	Dist from cloud		1500 m horizontal 1000 ft vertical	600 m horizontal 1000 ft vertical above cloud 500 ft vertical below cloud	1500 m horizontal 1000 ft vertical	All aircraft ABV the higher of 3000 ft AMSL or 1000 ft AGL 1500 m horizontal 1000 ft vertical All aircraft at or BLW the higher of 3000 ft AMSL or 1000 ft AGL Clear of cloud and in sight of ground or water Helicopters BLW 700 ft AGL See conditions in AIP Balloons BLW 1500 ft AGL See conditions in AIP
	Speed limits		250 KIAS max below 10,000 ft AMSL (unless a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons)	250 KIAS max (unless the pilot informs ATC that a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons) 200 KIAS max within 4 nm and 2500 ft AAL, (except with ATC approval)	250 KIAS max below 10,000 ft AMSL (unless a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons)	250 KIAS max below 10,000 ft AMSL (unless a higher minimum speed is required for safety reasons)
SPECIAL VFR	Radio RQ		YES	YES		
	Transponder RQ		YES—within SSR coverage	Not RQ, but always ON if fitted		
	Entry clearance		YES	YES		
	ATC separation		Special VFR from IFR Special VFR from Special VFR when visibility is less than VMC	Special VFR from IFR Special VFR from Special VFR when visibility is less than VMC		
	Flight information service	Special VFR not permitted	ATC service	ATC service	Special VFR not permitted	Special VFR not applicable
	Flight visibility		1600 m fixed-wing 800 m helicopters 100 m for balloons BLW 500 ft AGL 3000 m for balloons at and ABV 500 ft AGL	1600 m fixed-wing 800 m helicopters 100 m for balloons BLW 500 ft AGL 3000 m for balloons at and ABV 500 ft AGL		
	Dist from cloud		Clear of cloud	Clear of cloud		