

POCKET GUIDE TO CALCULATING IR(R) MINIMA

IR(R) *absolute minima* is 500ft DH for a precision approach, and 600ft MDH for a non-precision approach.
This **IS** mandatory!

IR(R) minima are expressed as HEIGHTS and therefore when calculating your Decision Altitude or Minimum Descent Altitude, heights must be used, until the last stage where the addition of the runway threshold or airfield elevation converts the DH/MDH to a DA/MDA.

It is now normal practice to fly an instrument approach on QNH to a DA or MDA. The same is true for the missed approach.

An additional 200ft is recommended, especially for pilots who are out of practice carrying out instrument approaches

A minimum visibility for both departure and arrival is 1500m, again this is mandatory. Due cognisance should also be given to potential engine failure within cloud, especially in an SEP. Even though IMC you are expected to be able to alight clear of built up areas.

System Minima

'System Minima' is the minimum *height* that the system can be deemed accurate to, these differ with types of approach and are published in the UK AIP. Approaches at certain airfields may have a higher minima.

Precision Approach (Lateral & vertical guidance)

Approach	Minima	IR(R) Absolute minima
ILS	200 feet	500 ft
PAR	200 feet	

Non-Precision Approach (Lateral guidance only)

VOR / DME	250 ft	600ft
LOC	250 ft	
SRA (0.5 nm)	250 ft	
VOR	300 ft	
NDB	300 ft	
VDF	300 ft	
SRA (1 nm)	300 ft	
RNAV (LNAV only)	300 ft	
SRA (2 nm)	350 ft	

IMC Minimum Visibility

Approach 1500m / Departure 1500m

CALCULATING YOUR MINIMA

OCH
(See Approach plate) ft

SYSTEM MINIMA
(See over page) ft

Use greater figure,
Minima calculated so far ft

For PRECISION APP
add 50 ft PEC +50 ft

The HEIGHT is: ft

(This is Instrument Rating minima)

Add 200 ft for IR(R) Rating +200 ft

Minima calculated so far ft

Compare calculated minima with applicable IR(R) ABSOLUTE MINIMA

Compare Minima calculated with Precision Approach 500 ft or Non-Precision App. 600 ft ft

Use Greater figure ft

Minima calculated so far ft

IF this figure is "DECISION Height" OR IF this figure is "MINIMUM DESCENT Height"

To calculate DA, add Runway **Threshold** elevation

To calculate MDA add **Aerodrome** elevation

+ ft + ft

Your MINIMA IS:

ft

Decision Altitude

ft

Minimum Descent Altitude