

OVERHEAD APPROACH

The overhead approach pattern was designed to accomplish a couple of things, but mainly to increase the ability to get multiple aircraft in a flight on the ground in the least possible time and use of airspace. A number of safety issues are also lessened by flying up initial versus entering the pattern from a 45, especially when dealing with high performance aircraft. A typical exchange between the flight and tower would look something like this.

Rascal 24 "Tower Rascal 24 inbound for the overhead"

TWR "Rascal 24 enter initial, runway ____ left turns, report initial" (RT turns if needed depending on preferred traffic flow)

Rascal 24 "Will report initial"

Rascal 24 "Reporting initial"

TWR "Rascal 24 break approach end report break" (a midfield or departure end break may also be appropriate)

Rascal 24 "Reporting break"

TWR "Rascal 24 wind _____ runway ____ cleared to land" Low approach may also be requested if so the process starts all over again with the aircraft reentering the initial position.

