

A Short Primer on Aircraft Radio Usage

In general at an airport without a fully functional control tower, your radio calls should follow this generic format: **Who** you are calling, **Who** you are, **Where** you are, **What** you want or are doing, **Who** you are calling.

Traffic: Preface your radio call with the word “**Traffic**”, as in **Blackstone Traffic**, when making a general broadcast in the blind to all other aircraft in the vicinity of Blackstone, like talking on a party line or in a chat room when the tower is not in operation.

Tower or UNICOM: Preface your radio call with the word “**Tower**” or “**UNICOM**”, as appropriate, as in **Blackstone Tower**, when calling an entity on the ground, wishing to establish communication and expecting a reply.

Sample Phraseology If the Tower Is Not In Operation:

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, taxi Runway XX, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, taxiing on Runway XX for departure, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, departing Runway XX to the southwest, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, clear of the pattern to the southwest, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, 10 miles southwest, in bound landing, will enter downwind for Runway XX, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, entering downwind, Runway XX, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, base, Runway XX, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, final, Runway XX, Blackstone

Blackstone Traffic, CAP 2557, clear of the active and taxiing to parking, Blackstone

Sample Phraseology If the Tower Is In Operation:

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557, radio check

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557, ready to taxi from "B" (or "C") Ramp for departure to Area XXXX

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557, ready for departure Runway XX, departing for Area XXXX

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557, is clear of the airport traffic area to the north/south/east/west

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557, 10 miles southwest in bound landing

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557 is downwind/base/final Runway XX

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557 is clear of the runway, taxi to B/C/Refuel Ramp

Blackstone Tower, CAP 2557 at the fuel pit, taxi to parking