

APPROACHING DESTINATION AIRPORT

Approximately 20 miles out.

Check the weather

ATIS, ASOS - if none, get from nearby airport

Determine which runway to use and how to enter the pattern

Traffic pattern right/left already noted on nav log diagram

Set frequencies

Determine when to descend

How far out to descend to get to TPA or overfly altitude before airport

To determine when to descend:

$$\frac{\text{altitude to lose}}{\text{descent (typically 500 ft. rate)}} = \text{time takes to descent to flyover/TPA}$$

**Round time up to compensate for increase in speed as descending
so altitude achieved before airport**

Use descent checklist at determined point

Start checklist a few minutes before starting descent.

Call Approach, Tower, or CTAF

Call Approach 30 miles out

or

Call Tower 10 miles out

or

Call CTAF 15 miles, 10 miles, 5 miles, and when enter the pattern

Tell them who you are, where you are, and what you want.

IMPORTANT: Get the Wx, and figure out your plan of action!