

# TYPES OF GENERAL AVIATION AIRPLANES

# PATH

## TO AVIATION

Pilot and Teacher Handbook



# Airplanes vary in size and speed because General Aviation (GA) does many, varied jobs



Airplanes for personal use and training  
can be **high-wing** ...



Struts support the wings on each  
side of a high-wing aircraft

... or **low-wing**, depending on where the wing attaches to the body of the airplane.





This sportplane also is a **biplane** because it has two wings, one high and one low.



This biplane has its third wheel in back (under the tail) so it's called a **taildragger**.



**Retractable** fly faster than “fixed gear” airplanes,  
tucking the wheels inside between take-off and landing



**Floatplanes** land on water using pontoons or floats. Some also have wheels so they can land on runways.





**Seaplanes** put their fuselage in the water, and with retractable wheels, **amphibians** also can use runways.



AIRCRAFT OWNERS



This is a **twin-engine** airplane or “twin” because it has two engines and propellers.



A **turboprop's** propeller is powered by a turbine or “jet” engine. Smaller airplanes, like cars, use a piston engine.



**Turboprops** are fast business planes,  
but can still use small or rough runways





Some business jets fly **faster**, and many fly **higher**, than airliners.

