

- The open door procedure varies with aircraft. You can try it ... but in every case your main job is to maintain aircraft control. (Wally, Catherine, David, and John)
- Closing an open door in flight is impossible in many aircraft. Unless you have a known procedure to close it, don't try. (David)
- This is an abnormal situation, but the airplane is still flyable. Don't create a bigger problem trying to fix a small one. (IP)
- At 100 feet AGL, this airplane will require double the book value of landing over a 50foot obstacle plus the ground roll. There's virtually no chance of stopping on the runway. (Tom)
- The plane is flying and controllable, so try to keep your actions as normal as possible. (Tom and IP)
- Slowing down just a bit after reaching pattern altitude will relieve some of the pressure on the door without creating an abnormal flight profile. (John)
- I find it hard to imagine that an open gull wing door doesn't affect the flying characteristics in a noticeable way. I want to land as soon as possible. (Catherine)

"On a discovery flight [in a Cessna 150], the door popped open and the passenger started screaming. So I opened my door far enough to suck hers closed. It was like a switch. Scream; don't scream. — David

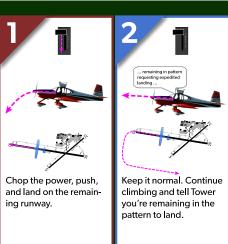
- Given the heat and the annoyance of the extra taxi time and waiting, this is a situation where an intersection departure is probably worth the risk. (David and Wally)
- Intersection departures are rarely worth the small time savings. Your life is worth the extra minutes. (Tom and Catherine)
- Review the satellite image for your departure airport to know what the overrun is on an aborted takeoff. (Catherine)
- Aborting a takeoff and landing on the remaining runway is much more difficult than people believe. (John and David)
- There are two or three gear up landings each year and about one loss-of-control crash every 18 months related to pilots getting distracted by an open door. (Tom)
- Passenger briefings should include staying calm if the door unlatches. (John and Tom)
- The most common time for a door to pop open is right at rotation. (**David** and **Tom**)

EXPERT CHOICES

Wally, David, JP, Tom

2* lohn

3 1 Catherine





sooner.



speed and reduce loads on the door. Continue climbing and tell Tower you're remaining in the pattern to land (on either

runwav).



pitch and roll mode. Reach up and try to grab the strap to close the door.