



Our Wings Carry Your Dreams

# Aerodrome Markings, Signs and Lights

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## Introduction

Aerodrome markings, signs and lights are designed to assist you in navigating around an aerodrome and during take-off and landing.

Ground symbols are used to indicate certain operations at airfields and are typically displayed next to the main windsock at the airfield.

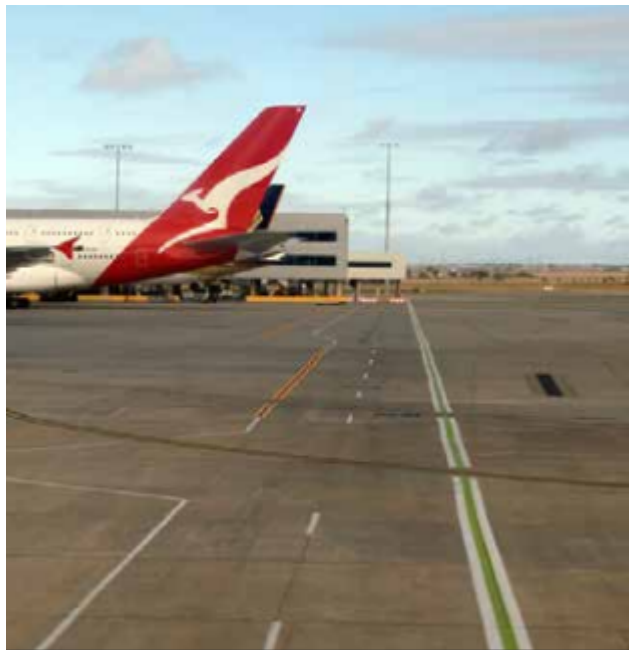
## Aerodrome Markings

In understanding aerodrome markings, remember the following principles

### Colour

- Runway markings are white, although yellow taxiway centrelines mean lead on, lead off or cross the runway
- Taxiway markings are yellow
- Markings on aprons and in ramp areas may include other colours (e.g., It is common to mark vehicle roadways in white)

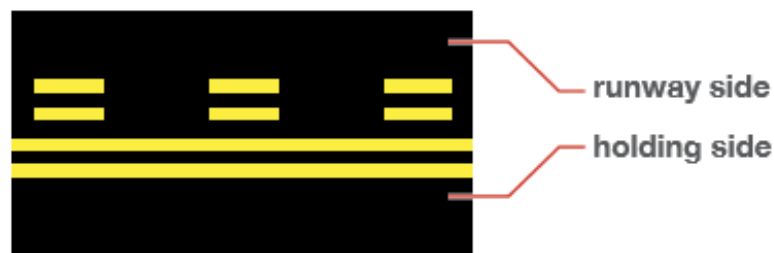
A vehicle roadway on an apron area is shown below. The edges of the roadway are often identified by solid white stripes. You may taxi across these roadways, but you should not taxi on them.



## Taxiway Marking Patterns

If a marking consists of two or more lines – some of which are solid and some of which are dashed, these are runway holding position markings

- It is always permissible to cross from the **dashed side** to the **solid side**
- ATC permission is always required to cross from the **solid side** to the **dashed side** at an aerodrome with an operating control tower
- When instructed to **hold short**, always **STOP** before the first solid line of the runway holding point marking



## Intermediate Holding Positions

Intermediate holding position markings show a holding position between taxiways. You will need to hold at these if ATC directs you to **hold short** of a particular taxiway



## Aerodrome Signs – How to Get from Here to There Safely

Along with aerodrome markings and lights, aerodrome signs are designed to assist you in navigating around the aerodrome.

It is important to understand the colour coding and meaning of the below types and signs when taxiing on an aerodrome

### 1. Location Sign

- This identifies the taxiway you are currently on
- It has a yellow inscription on a black background



*Remember: Black Square, You're there!*

## 2. Mandatory Instruction Sign

- a. This identifies the entrance to a runway or critical area, and areas prohibited for use by aircraft
- b. It has a white inscription on a red background
- c. You **MUST** obtain clearance from ATC prior to proceeding past this point



## 3. Direction Sign

- a. Identifies the designations of taxiways leading out of an intersection along with an arrow indicating the approximate direction of turn needed to align the aircraft on that taxiway
- b. They are located before the intersection, normally on the left side and with a location sign
- c. It has a black inscription on a yellow background



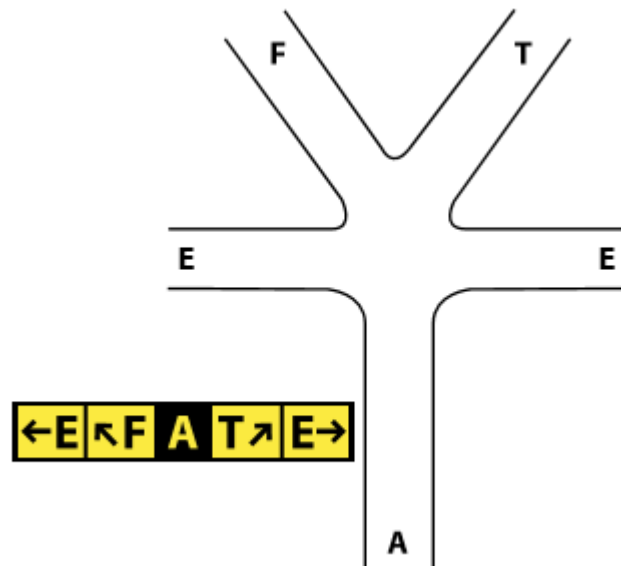
*Remember: Yellow Array points the way*

## 4. Destination Sign

- a. Identifies with arrows the directions to specific destinations on the airfield (eg. runways, terminals or airport services)
- b. It also has a black inscription on a yellow background



- Sign arrays – grouping of direction signs
  - Signs are orientated clockwise from left to right
  - Left turn signs are on the left of the Location sign and right turn signs are on the right of the Location sign



## 5. Taxi Holding Point Sign

- a. The below sign is located next to the yellow runway holding point markings painted on the taxiways that intersect a runway
  - i. You are on taxi way **ALPHA** at the **Holding Point** for **Runway 15-33**
  - ii. The threshold for Runway 15 is to your **LEFT**; the threshold for Runway 33 is to your **RIGHT**



## Aerodrome Lighting

There are many different lighting combinations that may exist on aerodromes, especially where aircraft operations are conducted in the lower visibility ranges. For taxing operations around airfields, you should remember:

- Runway edge lightings are **WHITE**

(Although on runways fitted with high intensity lighting, the runway edge lights within 600m from the end of the runway will be yellow)



*This picture also shows runway centreline and touch down zone lights*

- Taxiway edge lights or reflectors are **BLUE**



- Taxiway centrelines or reflectors are **GREEN**



- Runway guard lights are flashing yellow lights and highlight a runway holding point  
(Either in the pavement or located on the side of the taxiway)






## Ground Markings

You may also see the below symbols displayed next to the aerodrome's main windsock to indicate the status of a particular airfield

Below are the 3 main symbols you are likely to see displayed next to the main windsock at an airfield

- Aerodrome unserviceable
- Gliding operations in progress
- Operations confined to hard surfaces only

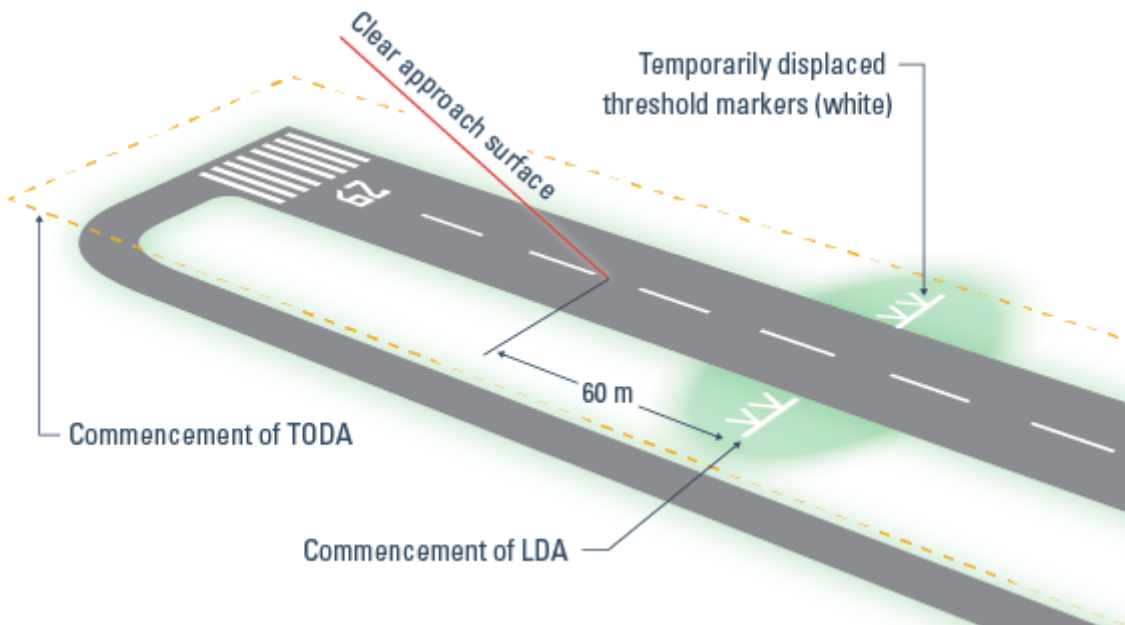
Symbols near wind direction indicator		
 Aerodrome unserviceable	 Gliding operations in progress	 Operations are confined to hard surface runways, aprons and taxiways only
 Unserviceable area marker		 Boundary markers

The unserviceable area marker and boundary markers can be found around the airfield to mark unserviceable areas and airfield boundaries

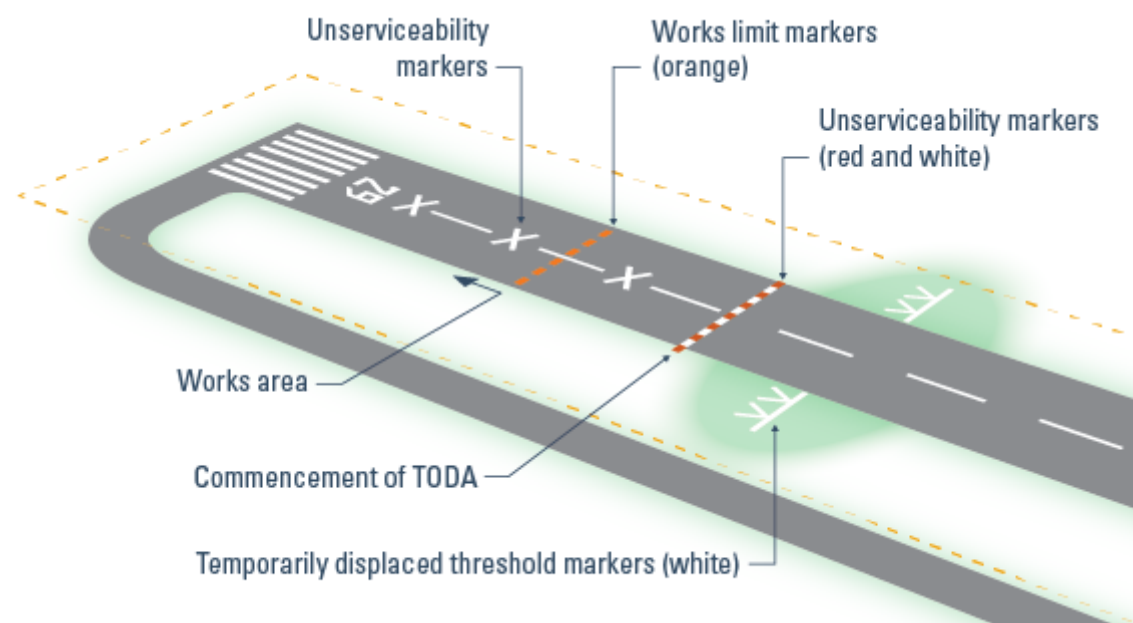
## Displacement Thresholds

You may sometimes see markings for displaced runway thresholds. This may occur due to works in progress or obstacle infringements on a particular runway for specific amounts of time. There are 4 types of different markings you are likely to see

1. Markings for a temporarily displaced threshold due to **obstacle infringement of approach surface** for a period of **30 days or less**

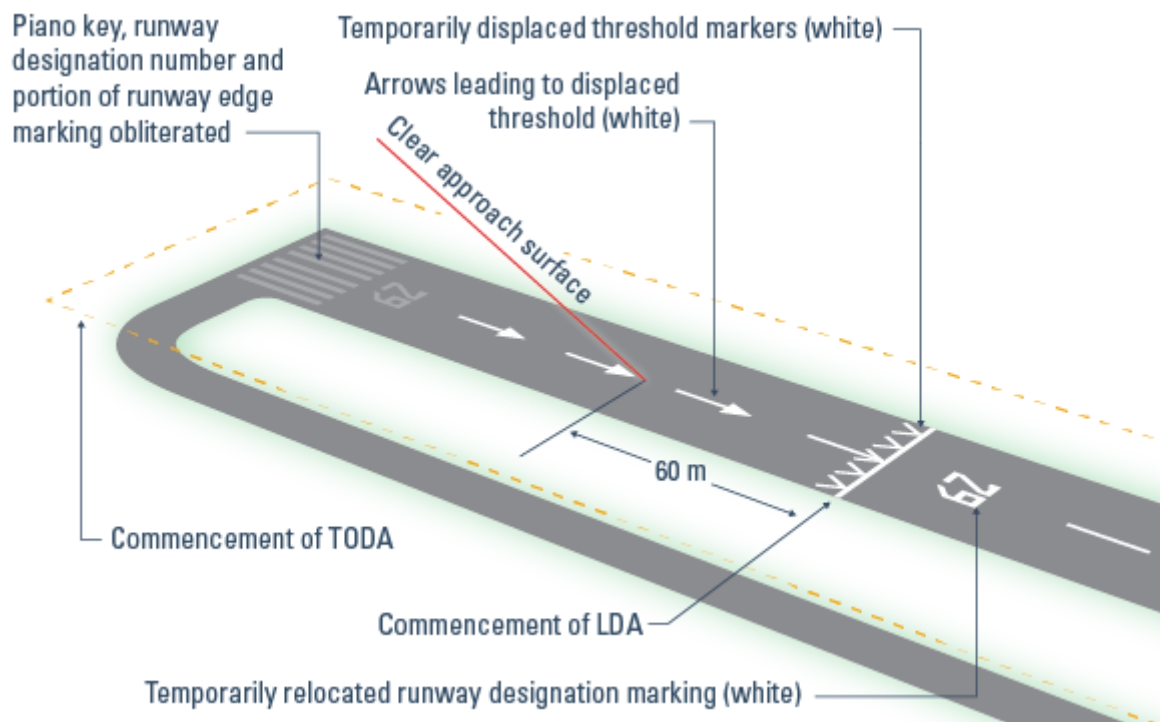


2. Markings for a temporarily displaced threshold due to **works on the runway** for a period of **30 days or less**

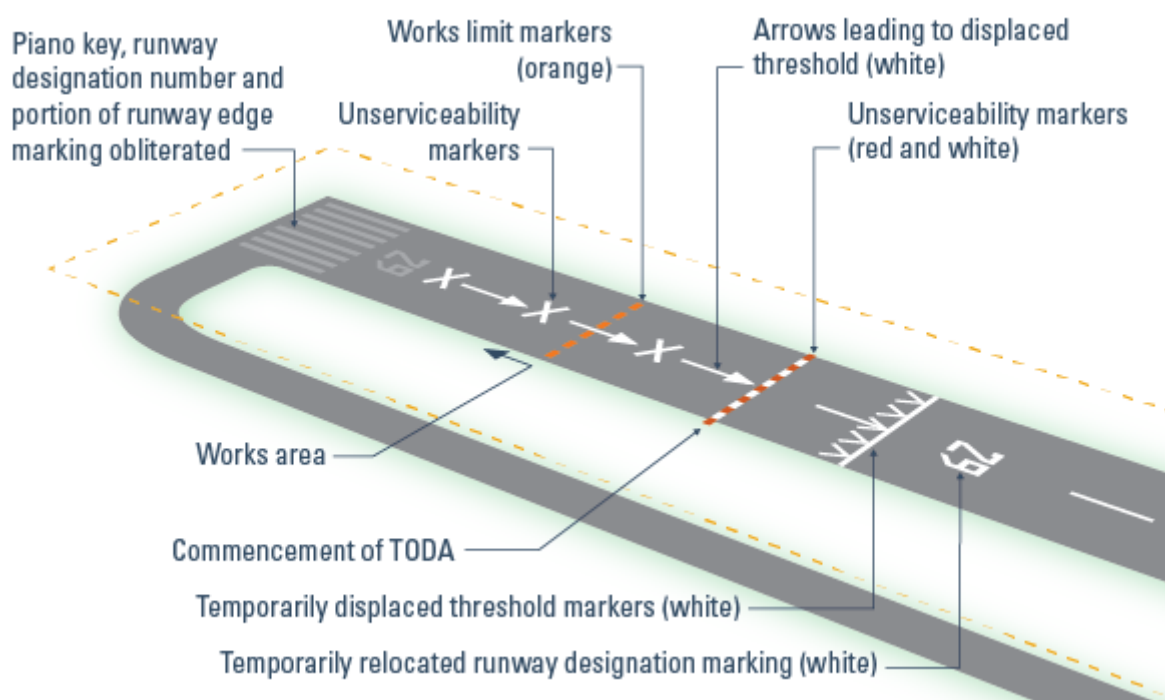




3. Markings for a temporarily displaced threshold due to **obstacle infringement of the approach path** for a period in **excess of 30 days**



4. Markings for a temporarily displaced threshold due to **works on the runway** for a period in **excess of 30 days**



## Reference Material

[http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/16-139BKT\\_Pilots-guide-runway-safety WEB.pdf](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/16-139BKT_Pilots-guide-runway-safety_WEB.pdf)

AIP Reference:AD 1.1

<http://vfrg.casa.gov.au/general/aerodrome-markings/light-and-ground-signals/>

<http://vfrg.casa.gov.au/general/aerodrome-markings/displaced-threshold/>

## Aerodrome Markings Trivia

Did you know?

Many runway incursions result from pilots acknowledging ATC hold short instructions and then proceeding across the runway holding point line!