# LOAD FACTOR:

When an aircraft is flying straight and level the amount of lift force that is required need only equal that of the weight. In a turn however, the lift force must also provide a value that will produce a centripetal force in order to turn the aircraft.

Therefore, the total lift produced by the wings is greater in a turn than in level flight. The wings themselves must then carry greater loads, this being known as a **Load Factor and denoted by - n**

In straight and level flight L=W so the aircraft is experiencing a load factor of

1. (Load factor has no units) In a maneuvering turn, where total lift is greater than weight then **L=nW or n=L/W**.