
**Wake Turbulence Take-off Weight Categories
and IFR Separation Distances**

4-F

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**Wake Turbulence Take-off Weight Categories and IFR Separation Distances
(Tables 4-F.1, -2)**

Category	FAA	United Kingdom	ICAO
Heavy	>300,000	>300,000	>300,000
Large	<300,000 >12,500	n/a	n/a
Medium	n/a	<300,000 >88,200	<300,000 >15,500
Small	<12,500	<88,200 >37,500	n/a
Light	n/a	<37,500	<15,500

*Table 4-F-1
Wake turbulence
maximum gross
weight categories
(pounds)*

> = Greater than
< = Less than

Gross Weight Categories		Minimum Separation Distance (Nautical Miles)		
Leading Aircraft	Following Aircraft	FAA	United Kingdom	ICAO
Heavy	Heavy	4	4	4
Heavy	Large	5	n/a	n/a
Heavy	Medium	n/a	5	5
Heavy	Small	6	6	n/a
Heavy	Light	n/a	8	6
Large	Large	3*	n/a	n/a
Large	Small	4	n/a	n/a
Medium	Medium	n/a	3	3
Medium	Small	n/a	4	n/a
Medium	Light	n/a	6	5
Small	Light	n/a	4	n/a

*Table 4-F-2
Wake turbulence
instrument flight
rules arrival
separation distances*

* As an interim measure, the FAA implemented procedures effective July 1, 1994, to require 4 nautical miles separation for small, large and heavy category aircraft following a B-757.

n/a Not applicable. Separation not based on wake turbulence.

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