

PilotLog Offline for Java MIDP 2.0 Mobile Devices

Version 2.1.3

User Guide

PilotLog Offline is a companion flight editor for the online PilotLog system. Provisional flight and simulator detail information is downloaded to your phone, where the details can be updated then re-synchronised with your online log. It is also possible to add new flights and simulator details directly on the phone if they were not previously entered online.

Note : Your entire log is not synchronised with the phone; most data is kept on the online server, and only flights and sim details marked as provisional (or newly entered offline) are stored on the phone. This minimises memory and processing requirements on your phone, while allowing you to keep your log up to date without an internet connection.

Important : Data entered offline is not backed up until you synchronise with the PilotLog server. It is advisable to synchronise regularly to safeguard against data loss in the event of a failure of your phone. In addition, storing excessive amounts of data on your phone will adversely affect the speed of the program.

Contents

Section		Page
1.0	Getting Started	2
2.0	Running PilotLog Offline for the First Time	3
3.0	Using PilotLog Offline	4
3.1	Adding Flights	5
3.2	Editing Flights	6
3.3	Deleting Flights	6
3.4	Adding Sims	7
3.5	Editing Sims	7
3.6	Deleting Sims	7
4.0	Synchronising With Your Online Log	8
5.0	Troubleshooting	9

1.0 Getting Started

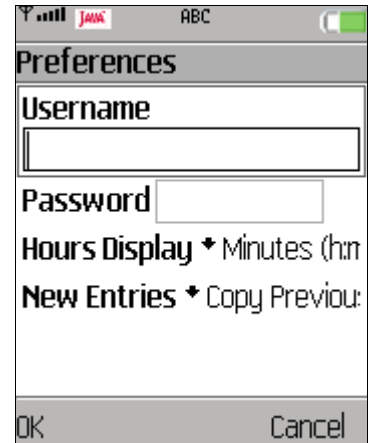
Download and Install the Program

1. On your phone, open your internet web browser, and enter the address:
www.pilotlog.co.uk/wap.wml
If your phone cannot open this WAP page, use the following address:
www.pilotlog.co.uk/pocket.php
Follow the links to 'login here', then 'downloads', then 'Mobile phones (Java MIDP)'
Alternatively, you can download the file from the 'Downloads' page on our main website, copy the file (PilotLog.jar) to your phone (via cable or bluetooth), and install it by selecting it in your phone's File Explorer.
2. When the PilotLog page loads, you will see a link to 'PilotLog 2.1.3'. Select this link.
3. Enter your PilotLog username and password when asked by your phone's web browser.
4. The program should download and install automatically. You may be asked where to store it, in which case you should choose a sensible location on your phone ('Applications', for example).
5. If you are upgrading from a previous version or reinstalling, you will be asked whether to overwrite the previous version. Select 'yes'. You may also be asked whether to keep any existing data. Selecting 'yes' will keep any flights, sims and preferences you had set (including your username and password). Selecting 'no' will clear any old data (including your username and password).
6. You may be asked whether to run the program immediately. If not, you can launch it manually from your Applications folder.

2.0 Running PilotLog Offline for the First Time

The following steps are *not* necessary if you have upgraded from a previous version of PilotLog Offline, and kept your existing data.

1. To run PilotLog Offline, use your phone's menus to navigate to 'Applications' and select 'PilotLog'.
2. The first task should be to enter your PilotLog username and password to enable synchronisation. From the menu, select 'Preferences...':
3. Enter your username and password.
4. Set the hours display format ('Options->Display h:mm' etc) to suit your personal preference. As in the online log, this affects all hours totals, and the entry of simulator detail durations. Flight times are always entered as hh:mm, but durations are displayed in the selected format.
5. Select whether new flight and sim entries should be blank, or a copy of the previously entered flight or sim. Copying the previous entry will save time if you regularly enter sequences of flights, while blank entries may save time if you use a downloaded roster and only occasionally add single flights out of sequence.
6. Select 'OK' from the menu to save your settings and return to the main screen.
7. Synchronise with your online log ('Synchronise' in the menu). Even if you have no provisional flights stored online, this will download your hours totals to the phone. For additional help on synchronising, see [Section 4](#).



Note : The exact layout of the screens will vary from phone to phone (see examples below), and depends on a number of factors such as screen size, number of buttons and phone manufacturer. Menu options in particular may be assigned to a dedicated button, or be concealed behind an option labelled 'More', 'Menu', 'Options' or similar. Selecting this button will display a list of options which can be selected using the cursor keypad/joystick on your phone. Use 'up' and 'down' to highlight an option, then press 'ok', 'select' or push the centre of the joystick to activate the option.

The same variation applies to entering and editing data. On some phones, you simply navigate to the text entry box using the cursor/joystick up/down buttons, then type. On others, you must highlight the text entry box, then select it to activate it before being able to enter any information. In general, the methods used should be the same as is used elsewhere on the same phone, for example entering contact details in your address book.



Sony Ericsson main screen - 'Add Flight' on dedicated button, 'Menu' for all other options



Nokia main screen – 'Options' for all menu options, dedicated button to 'Close' (exit program)



Nokia menu example, accessed by pressing 'Options' button

3.0 Using PilotLog Offline

Depending on your circumstances, there are several ways to use PilotLog Offline:

If your company produces planned rosters in a form that can be downloaded to PilotLog, import your planned roster online*. Synchronise with PilotLog Offline and all the planned flights will be copied to your PDA. Enter actual flight times and other information on the flight deck as you complete each flight, then synchronise with your online log at a convenient time.

If you have a planned roster but no download facility, you can enter your planned roster manually online or offline as provisional flights. Then simply synchronise as above. Only flights marked as provisional will be downloaded, so you must check the 'provisional' option when entering planned flights online. These flights will be highlighted in grey in your online log, and marked with a 'P' in PilotLog Offline.

If you have no planned roster, or operate unplanned flights (e.g. from standby), you can add the flight(s) using PilotLog Offline on the flight deck. The new flights will be inserted into your online log book when you synchronise.

The main screen shows summary information:

The number of flights & sims stored on your phone, and the number of these which are provisional, as opposed to confirmed data.

Your total flying hours in the past 28 days up to today. The figure in brackets includes provisional (planned) flights, if there are any in the period.

Projected flying hours for the 28 days up to tomorrow, again with a provisional figure in brackets if there are any planned flights affecting this period.

Total hours in your log book. Note that you may have to scroll down the page to see all the information, as shown in the screenshots to the right. To scroll down, use the 'down' button on your phone's cursor pad or joystick.

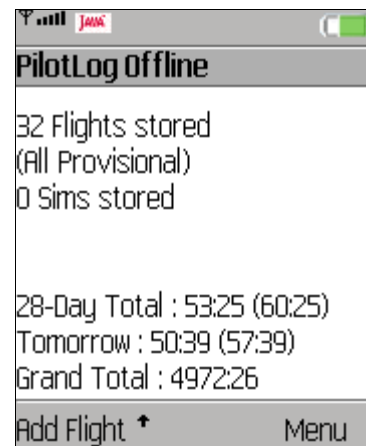


Deleting a flight or simulator detail on the phone will result in it being deleted from your online log next time you synchronise.

The 'Preferences...' menu option (see [Section 2](#)) allows you to select your preferred hours display format. This affects totals displayed on the main screen, and flight and sim duration displays. Flight departure and arrival times will always be displayed as hh:mm.

The 'About...' menu option displays software version information which you should quote in any support queries.

To close the PilotLog program and return to normal phone functions, choose 'Exit' from the menu.



* **Note** : Not all roster formats have been submitted to PilotLog for configuration. If you would like to use this feature but find that it is not available, please e-mail us at development@pilotlog.co.uk, attaching sample rosters.

3.2 Editing Flights

Select 'Edit Flight' from the main screen menu.

You will be presented with a list of stored flights. The information displayed is date (day/month only to save screen space), departure airport and time, arrival airport and time, duration (in brackets). If whole lines do not fit on the screen, they may wrap onto the next line (as shown in the example to the right) or scroll horizontally so that you can see all the text. A 'P' before an entry signifies that the flight is provisional.

The list opens automatically on (or as close as possible to) today's date. You will need to scroll up or down the list to see and edit flights from other days.

Simply select the entry you wish to edit.



The flight editing screen is exactly the same as for adding a flight. There is an extra menu option when editing, labelled 'Copy'. Selecting this option will copy information from the previous flight. This means that, for example, if you operate a series of flights on the same aircraft having already entered them as provisional data, you can enter the registration once for the first flight, then use the 'copy' button to copy that information into subsequent flights without any further typing. Only the currently highlighted item (e.g. PiC, Co-Pilot, Comment, etc) is copied, not the whole flight. When copying airports, departure and arrival are automatically reversed. A copied comment will be added to any comment already entered, rather than overwriting it.

Note : When you edit a provisional flight, the 'Provisional' box is automatically unchecked as it is assumed that once a flight has been edited it is confirmed, and no longer provisional data. You can of course re-check the 'Provisional' box manually. This will happen if you view a flight and select 'OK' – if you just wish to view a provisional flight without making any changes, you should select 'Cancel' to avoid saving the flight as non-provisional.

3.3 Deleting Flights

Select 'Delete Flight' from the main screen menu.

You will be presented with a list of stored flights similar to that used to select a flight to edit. Select any flight to delete it. You will first be asked to confirm that you wish to delete the flight, and when you select 'OK' it will be permanently deleted.

Note : Deleting a flight in PilotLog Offline will remove it from your online log next time you synchronise. The delete function should be used with caution for this reason, as deleted flights cannot be recovered.

3.4 Adding Sims

Select 'Add Sim' from the main screen menu. This screen works in much the same way as adding a flight.

The image displays three sequential screenshots of the 'Add Sim' mobile application screen. The first screenshot shows the 'Date' field with 'Fri, 23 Mar 2007', a 'Duration' field with '4:00', a 'Title' field with 'Sim Check', and a 'Check Type' dropdown set to 'LPC/OPC'. The second screenshot shows the 'Simulator' field with '737-400', a 'Simulator Type' dropdown set to 'FlightSim', an 'Instructor' field with 'Chopper Smith', and a 'PIC' field with 'Buster Level'. The third screenshot shows a 'Co-Pilot' field with 'Self', a 'Crew Capacity' dropdown set to 'P2', a 'Provisional' dropdown set to 'No', and a 'Comment' field with 'All going well so far...'. Each screenshot has an 'OK' button and a 'Cancel' button at the bottom.

Duration must be entered in the format selected from the 'Preferences' screen, i.e. h:mm, h.m or h.mm. Regardless of the format selected, it is acceptable to enter a single digit (e.g. '4' instead of '4:00') which will be assumed to be a whole number of hours.

'Title' is a short description of the detail.

The 'Simulator' box is for the simulator name. This could be the aircraft type, and/or the full approved simulator registration code. There are options to specify the type of detail (LPC/OPC, OPC, etc.) and type of simulator (FlightSim, FNPT II, etc.).

Select 'OK' to save the sim details. Tapping 'Cancel' will discard the current sim data and return to the previous screen.

3.5 Editing Sims

Tap 'Edit Sim'. The process is the same as described in ['3.2 Editing Flights'](#), including the notes on provisional sims being automatically marked as non-provisional and the copy option copying from the previous detail. When copying the detail title, the check type will also be copied. Similarly, when copying the simulator name, the simulator type will also be copied.

3.6 Deleting Sims

Tap 'Delete Sim'. The process is the same as described in ['3.3 Deleting Flights'](#). You will be asked to confirm before any sim detail is deleted. Details deleted offline will be removed from your online log next time you synchronise.

4.0 Synchronising With Your Online Log

PilotLog Offline for MIDP synchronises by connecting directly to the PilotLog server. To do this, you need an internet connection from your phone. Note that the online menu option 'Tools -> Synchronise with PilotLog Offline' does not apply to the MIDP program; it is provided for PocketPC and Symbian users only.

Select 'Synchronise...' from the main menu. If you have not entered your username and password, you will be prompted to do so before continuing. See [Section 2](#) for how to do this.

Select 'Start' to begin the synchronisation process. You will probably be asked whether PilotLog should be allowed to make a data connection to the internet. This is a security feature of most mobile phones, and you should answer 'yes' or 'OK' as appropriate.

As the synchronisation progresses, progress will be shown. Using a typical phone GPRS data connection, this may take several minutes if you have a large number of flights to synchronise.

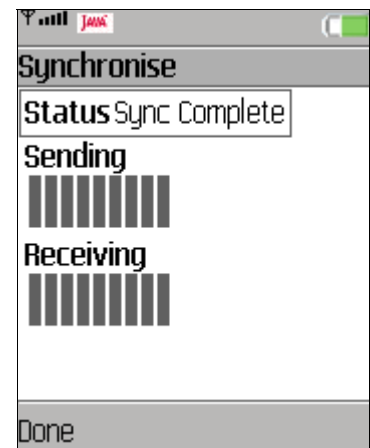
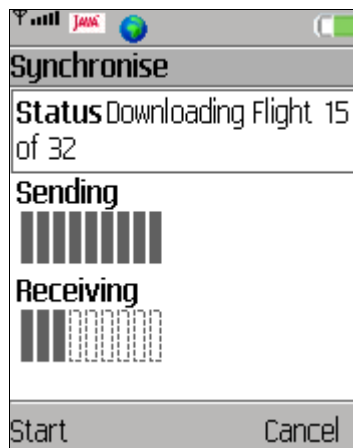
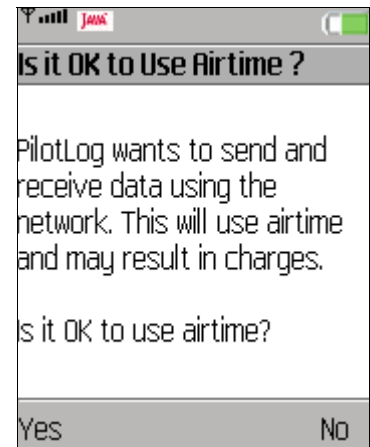
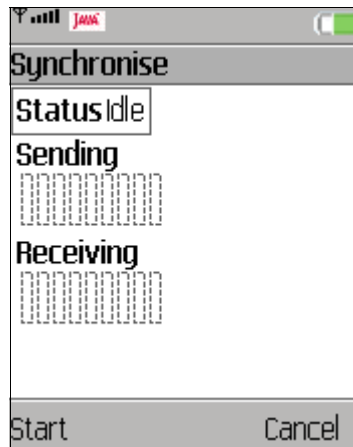
You can cancel the synchronisation at any time by selecting 'Cancel'. Any flights and sims that were uploaded to the server will be changed online, but data on the phone will be unchanged. The phone and server are only properly synchronised when the message 'Sync Complete' appears.

If the synchronisation fails or is cancelled, you should synchronise again to ensure that all information is up to date.

If your phone stops part-way through the synchronisation, the reason could be a weak mobile phone signal, or incorrect phone data settings. Try again in a different location with a known strong signal. Data settings vary from phone to phone, and the standard settings are unfortunately not always correct.

If your phone repeatedly fails to synchronise, please contact us at development@pilotlog.co.uk, quoting the exact error message(s) displayed, and how far through the synchronisation process the program gets. We will also need to know what model of phone you are using, and which mobile network (including whether you pay monthly or pay-as-you-go), in order to provide assistance.

Synchronising requires a data connection, for which your network operator will probably charge. As a guide, a typical synchronisation will use 30kB to 100kB (0.03MB to 0.1MB) of data, depending how many flights need to be uploaded and downloaded. Many contracts include a certain amount of data each month free of charge. Data charges when roaming (outside your home country) may be higher than your standard rate. Check with your network provider for exact rates.



5.0 Troubleshooting

No flights or sim details have been downloaded to my phone

Only provisional flights and sims are downloaded. If you have no provisional data online, then nothing will be downloaded. You should still see hours totals information on the PilotLog Offline main screen, and you can add flights and sim details offline. These will be added to your online log when you synchronise.

All the flights I added offline disappeared when I synchronised my log

See above. If the flights were added as non-provisional data, they are copied to your online log during synchronisation. As only provisional flights are downloaded, you will not see the flights you added in PilotLog Offline after synchronisation.

This is to save space and processing power on your phone. If you require a copy of your historic log to carry with you, consider downloading a backup log file (online, 'Tools -> Download Backup Log File'). See the online help file for further information.