

TACAN Approach procedure (TAP)

Recommended for: ADC, APC, and ACC. PP,SPP,CP	Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show what a TAP is. • Know how to clear a TAP. • Show the phraseology for a TAP.
Time: 40mins. aprox.	Minimum rank: AS3/FS3
Trainees: ATCO/PILOTS	Where: Teamspeak
Comms: Teamspeak - cc.ts.ivao.aero	Charts: LETO IAC

What is a TACAN approach (TAP)?

TACAN approach is an instrumental approach procedure, based in a TACAN. It is very similar to a VOR approach procedure.

Since only military OAT aircrafts due to their equipment are able to tune TACAN frequencies, this approach procedure is exclusive for military aircrafts.

IAF for TAP is usually the TACAN itself or a fix defined by an azimuth/distance from TACAN. The procedure can finish as a non-precision approach or, finish as a precision approach linking with an ILS approach procedure (i.e. TACAN/ILS approach).

In an overall view, TAP procedure is the same that a VOR approach but, its phraseology may differ to adapt to the military specific phraseology.

How to clear a TAP?

As we said before, TAP is quite similar to VOR approach.

As general rule, the aircraft will be established in a published holding patten waiting for the approach clearance from the ATCO.

Once cleared to TAP, will leave the holding pattern, reporting when leaving IAF and when reaching FAF (A.K.A. "gate") and then continue approach until DA/DH to report airfield in sight and be cleared to land or in case it reaches the minima and doesn't have airfield in sight start a missed approach procedure.

Phraseology to be used when clearing/flying a TAP.

We will now see the phraseology to be used when clearing/flying a TAP. As example, we will use TAP23 LETO and TAP or ILS1 23 LETO, whose charts you can download from the provided links.

[P]: Pilot´s communication.

[C]: ATCO´s communication.

TAP 23 LETO

[P]: Torrejón, good afternoon, Poker 22. Established at holding pattern for TAP rw 23, 4300ft, ready for approach...

[C]: Poker 22 good afternoon, Cleared TACAN approach rw 23, Report leaving IAF.

[P]: Cleared TAP rw 23 will report leaving IAF, Poker 22.

[P]: Leaving IAF, Poker 22

[C]: Copy, Poker 22, report on gate. (Gate is FAF; it is frequently shown at charts as Maltese cross )

[P]: Will report on gate, Poker 22.

[P]: On gate, Poker 22.

[C]: Copy Poker 22, report AD in sight or starting missed approach.

[P]: Will report AD in sight or going around, Poker 22.

[P]: AD in sight, Poker 22

[C]: Poker 22, Wind 230 15 Knots rw 23 check gear down and locked, cleared to land.

[P]: Gear down and locked, rw 23, cleared to land, Poker 22.

**TAP 23 ILS LETO**

[P]: Torrejón, good afternoon, Poker 22. Established on holding pattern for TAP ILS 1 rw 23, 4600ft, ready for approach.

[C]: Poker 22 good afternoon, cleared to TACAN ILS rw 23, report leaving IAF.

[P]: Cleared TAP rw 23 will report leaving IAF, Poker 22.

[P]: leaving IAF, Poker 22

[C]: Copy, Poker 22, report established on Ilz.

[P]: Will report established, Poker 22.

[P]: Established on localizer, Poker 22.

[C]: Poker 22, report AD in sight or starting missed approach.

[P]: Will report AD in sight or going around.

[P]: AD in sight.

[C]: Poker 22 check gear down and locked wind 230 15 Kt rw 23 cleared to land.

[P]: Gear down and locked, cleared to land 23, Poker 22