

Request an IFR Clearance at a Towered Airport (via Ground)

- ① PILOT
Bolton Ground, Cirrus Eight Eight Seven Two Bravo at Columbus Jet with Mike, IFR to Kalamazoo. Request clearance.

After a brief pause while the controller locates your flight strip ...

- ② GROUND CONTROLLER
Cirrus Eight Eight Seven Two Bravo, cleared to the Kalamazoo Airport via climb runway heading, vectors DIPNE, then as filed. Maintain three thousand, expect eight thousand five minutes after departure. Departure frequency one three four point zero. Squawk three six two seven.

- ③ PILOT
Cleared to Kalamazoo via runway heading, vectors DIPNE, then as filed. Maintain three thousand, expect eight thousand five minutes after departure. Departure one three four point zero. Squawk three six two six. Cirrus Eight Eight Seven Two Bravo.

- ④ GROUND CONTROLLER
Cirrus Seven Two Bravo, squawk should be three six two seven, rest of readback correct. Advise when ready to taxi.

- ⑤ PILOT
Three six two seven. Got it. We're ready to taxi now. Cirrus Seven Two Bravo.

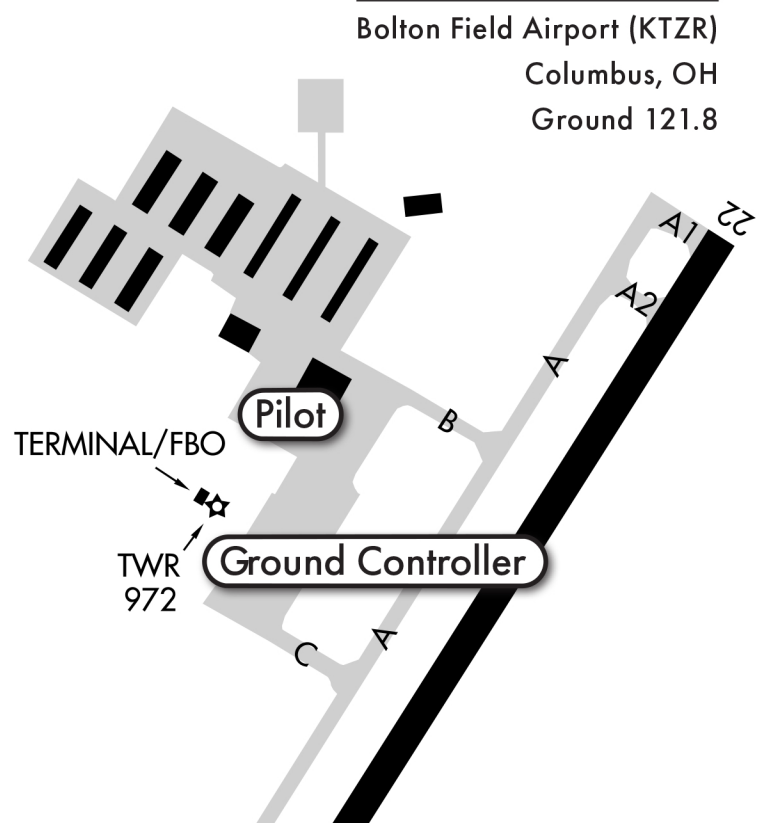
- ⑥ GROUND CONTROLLER
Seven Two Bravo, Runway Two Two, taxi via Bravo, Alpha.

- ⑦ PILOT
Runway Two Two via Bravo, Alpha. Cirrus Seven Two Bravo.

While Class B and C airports have a dedicated Clearance Delivery frequency, most Class D airports don't, and you'll call Ground Control to request your IFR departure clearance. Always listen to the ATIS first, as sometimes it will specify who to call.

Because you're calling Ground, your initial call can include your location on the airport and ATIS letter. Essentially, it's both a request for your IFR clearance and the information Ground needs before letting you taxi, all in one statement. The controller may forget and ask for it again when it's time to taxi. Because you're already talking to Ground, you can request your taxi without changing frequencies ⑤.

Alternately, you can make a clearance request of Ground just like with Clearance Delivery, and then separately give them your location and ATIS letter when you request taxi. In this case, call ① would be: "Bolton Ground, Cirrus Eight Eight Seven Two Bravo. IFR to Kalamazoo. Request clearance." When you called for taxi it would be as described on page 24.



TIP

An IFR clearance is *not* a clearance to taxi, even if the same controller is working both positions.