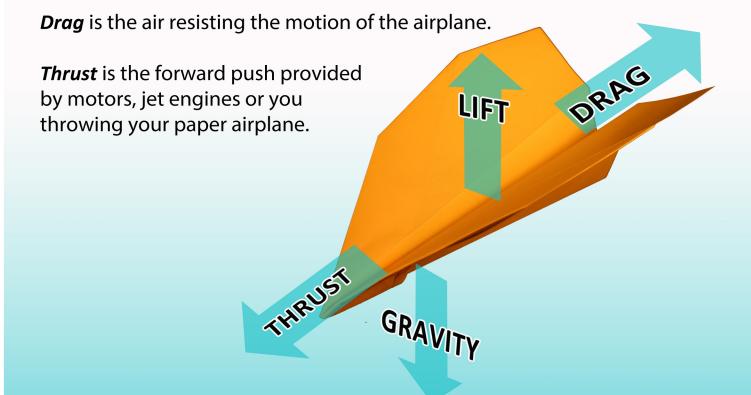


Basic Forces

Lift is the upward force on the plane. Lift is generated by the shape of the wing, and by the angle the wing is tilted into the airflow. A lower pressure is formed on the top of the wing, and airflow is re-directed downward at the back of the wing. Lift is the result.

Gravity keeps us anchored to the Earth. Airplanes need to balance the gravity forces with lifting forces to achieve stable flight.



Every airplane is always being slowed down by drag. Powered planes just throttle-up (give the engine more fuel) to regain speed. Gliders need to be designed to gain speed on their own. More lifting surface toward the rear of a paper airplane helps point the nose down. Gravity makes the plane speed up. When the plane regains enough speed, sufficient airflow is reflected off of the up elevator adjustment to push the tail back down.

The balance between the *Center of Gravity* and *Up Elevator* create a stable flight. Left and right rudder control or correct turning.

