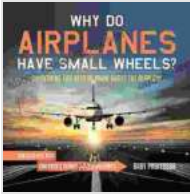


# Why Do Airplanes Have Small Wheels? Everything You Need to Know



**Why Do Airplanes Have Small Wheels? Everything You Need to Know About The Airplane - Vehicles for Kids | Children's Planes & Aviation Books** by Baby Professor

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3776 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 64 pages

Paperback : 96 pages

Item Weight : 1 pounds

Dimensions : 7.44 x 9.69 inches

Hardcover : 268 pages

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Airplanes have small wheels for a few reasons. The first reason is that airplanes need to be as lightweight as possible. Every pound of weight added to an airplane increases the amount of fuel it needs to fly. So, by using small wheels, airplanes can save a significant amount of weight.

The second reason why airplanes have small wheels is that they need to be aerodynamic. The shape of an airplane's wings and body is designed to create lift and reduce drag. Small wheels help to reduce drag by creating less turbulence. This allows the airplane to fly more efficiently.

The size of an airplane's wheels is a compromise between these two factors. Larger wheels would be more stable and would provide a smoother

ride, but they would also add weight and drag to the aircraft. Smaller wheels are lighter and more aerodynamic, but they can be more difficult to control on the ground.

## **How Big Are Airplane Wheels?**

The size of airplane wheels varies depending on the size of the aircraft. Small airplanes, such as private planes and regional jets, typically have wheels that are 12 to 20 inches in diameter. Large airplanes, such as airliners and cargo planes, typically have wheels that are 30 to 50 inches in diameter.

The width of airplane wheels also varies depending on the size of the aircraft. Small airplanes typically have wheels that are 4 to 6 inches wide. Large airplanes typically have wheels that are 8 to 12 inches wide.

## **What Are Airplane Wheels Made Of?**

Airplane wheels are made of a variety of materials, including aluminum, steel, and composite materials. Aluminum is the most common material used for airplane wheels because it is lightweight and strong. Steel is also used for airplane wheels, but it is heavier than aluminum. Composite materials are made of a combination of materials, such as carbon fiber and fiberglass. Composite materials are lightweight and strong, but they can be more expensive than aluminum or steel.

## **How Do Airplane Wheels Work?**

Airplane wheels work in a similar way to car wheels. They are attached to the aircraft's landing gear, which is a set of struts that support the aircraft's weight. When the aircraft is on the ground, the wheels rotate to allow the

aircraft to move. When the aircraft is in the air, the wheels are retracted into the aircraft's body to reduce drag.

## **Why Do Airplane Wheels Sometimes Skid?**

Airplane wheels can sometimes skid when the aircraft is landing or taking off. This can happen for a number of reasons, including:

- The runway is wet or icy.
- The aircraft is landing or taking off in a crosswind.
- The aircraft is overloaded.
- The aircraft's brakes are not working properly.

When airplane wheels skid, it can cause the aircraft to lose control. This can lead to an accident.

## **How to Prevent Airplane Wheels From Skidding**

There are a number of things that can be done to prevent airplane wheels from skidding, including:

- Landing and taking off on a dry, level runway.
- Landing and taking off in a calm wind.
- Ensuring that the aircraft is not overloaded.
- Making sure that the aircraft's brakes are working properly.
- Using anti-skid brakes.

By following these tips, you can help to prevent airplane wheels from skidding and improve the safety of your flight.



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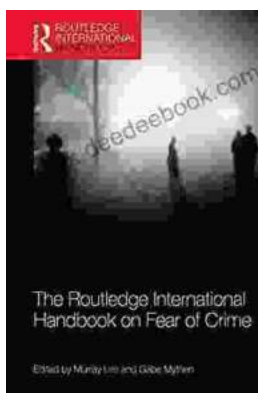
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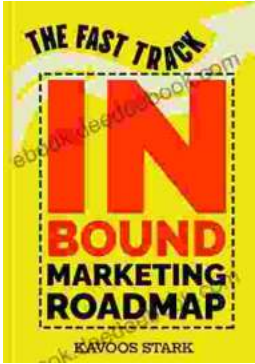
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