Mental math to help you calculate your glide to determine whether or not you can get back to the airport….assume no wind, no lift, no sink

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The formula is: ? times 5 equals the glide ratio

Example: Let's use a 1-26 as your glider. Best L/D or Glide Ratio = approx. 20:1

There are 5,280 ft in a mile, but let's round this to **5,000** so this is "5" **thousands**

? X 5 = 20

Answer: 4 x 5 = 20 so you will go **4 miles per 1000 ft** of altitude lost

Practical example: You are at Evant which is **15 miles** away. You are at 3,000 ft AGL in a 1-26

Can I glide home to KMNZ?

? X 5 = 20

Answer: 4 so you will glide 4 miles per 1,000 ft loss of altitude (no lift, no sink, no wind)

You are 3,000 ft AGL ("3" thousands) so 4 miles per 1000 means you will glide **12 miles**.

YOU WILL NOT MAKE IT HOME. FIND A THERMAL OR PICK A FIELD TO LAND IN.

Note: Tail winds will increase your L/D and head winds HURT your L/D.