

# Bessie Coleman



Born: Jan 26, 1892, Atlanta, GA  
Died: April 30, 1926, Jacksonville, FL



# Life of Bessie Coleman

Bessie Coleman is known for performing flying tricks.

She was the first female African American pilot to hold an international pilot license. She fought discrimination to follow her dream of becoming a pilot. She became a skilled barnstormer and aviation educator. This extraordinary woman was a pioneer in aviation, helping to break barriers for African Americans and women alike.



# What Bessie Coleman did to make history?

Bessie was the first African American woman to become a pilot in 1921. Defeating gender and racial prejudice, she became a symbol for lots of women of color when African Americans were still battling segregation and for equal rights.

Made history by being the first african american woman with a pilot licence.



STRIKING A POSE IN THE WOODARD STUDIO, CHICAGO

# Bessie Coleman Life and Family

Bessie Coleman had three sisters and two brothers. Bessie's dad left when she was nine years old. She died on April 30th, 1926 Jacksonville, Florida Preparing for a show.



## Why was Bessie Coleman successful?

Bessie Coleman was successful in life because she believed that African American women could be pilots. She faced many challenges both as a woman and an African American. She was interested in learning and worked hard at that as well.



# Bessie Coleman Famous Accomplishments

Bessie Coleman was famous for being the first African American to get her pilot license. She received her license in 1921. Bessie Coleman performed aerial acrobatics.



# Bessie Coleman

## Timeline of her life



Unfortunately, she was only able to attend for 1 term because of financial constraints. When Bessie was 23, she moved to Chicago and worked as a manicurist. Her love for aviation started here. She used to listen to and read stories about World War I pilots. She tried to apply for flying schools in America but because she was black they refused her entry. She then moved to France where she finally managed to obtain her pilot's license. During her time in France, she even managed to teach herself, French.

# Bessie Coleman

## Timeline of her life Part 2.

Bessie specialized in stunt flying and parachuting. She earned a living by performing aerial shows. Unfortunately, she died on April 30th, 1926 at the age of 34 while rehearsing for an aerial show. She was well known for being a pioneer of women in the field of aviation.



Federation Internationale  
Aeronautique  
FRANCE

Avec ses insignes propres officiel  
reconnus par la Federation  
Aeronautique Internationale  
pour la France certifions que:

une Bessie Coleman  
ne a Blount, Texas  
le 20 Janvier 1892

ayant rempli toutes les conditions  
imposees par la F. A. I. a ete nomme:

Pilote-Aviateur  
a la date du 15 Juin 1921

Commission Speciale Aeronautique  
Le President  
J. P. ...



Signature du Titulaire  
Bessie Coleman

N. Du Bureau 78.310.



Jan 26, 1892 THE END April 30th  
1926

