

Mooney M20F Executive Model Guide

The Mooney M20F Executive is a four-seat, single-engine retractable-gear piston airplane built from 1967 to 1977. It is the long-cabin Mooney: 10 inches longer than the Super 21, with more fuel and a higher gross weight. It uses a 200-hp Lycoming IO-360-A1A. The documents give no variant-specific speed or range figures, so check the individual airplane's handbook.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Four-seat long-cabin Mooney, built 1967 to 1977, with a Lycoming IO-360-A1A engine of 200 hp.
- Maximum gross weight is 2740 lb, with up to 120 lb of baggage and 10 lb on the hat rack.
- Early airplanes had manual gear and flaps. Electric gear and flaps became standard in 1969, and many owners retrofitted electric gear.
- M20 family maximums (222 kt, 1050 nm) are family-level figures only. Do not assume them for the Executive.

GEAR, FLAPS AND AUTOPILOT: WHAT TO CHECK

A 2016 UK accident involved an M20F with retrofitted electric gear: the right main gear collapsed on landing. The actuating rod was bent and the downlock had not overcentred. The gear-down light and the floor window only show rod position, not that the gear is locked. Have the gear rigging and rods inspected. Early Brittain Positive Control wing levelers can feel sluggish if the servos have pinhole leaks.

FUEL, LOADING AND WEIGHT

The weight and balance sheet allows up to 64 gal of fuel (384 lb), 120 lb of baggage and 10 lb on the hat rack, within a 2740 lb gross weight. A sample 1967 owner's manual notes fuel bladders fitted to that airplane. They cut usable fuel to 27.4 gal per tank (54.8 gal total), and the bladders had a history of letting in water. Confirm the fuel system and usable capacity for the specific airplane, and weigh it for current empty weight.

ENGINE AND POWERPLANT NOTES

The IO-360-A1A is fuel-injected, runs on 100/130 octane fuel, and has an eight-quart sump. It has a 74-inch constant-speed propeller. The engine mounts use four rubber vibration isolators, and replacement is recommended at each engine overhaul. The Power Boost control sends unfiltered ram air to the engine. Use it only in clean air at altitude, and turn it off for takeoff and landing.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Power Hp	200
Propeller Diameter Inches	74
Fuel Capacity Gal	64
Baggage Capacity Lbs	120

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Gross Weight Lbs	2740
Max Baggage Lbs	120
Max Hat Rack Lbs	10
Max Fuel Lbs	384

SAFETY NOTES

- Do not fly the Executive in icing conditions. Turn Power Boost off if icing is inadvertently encountered, because unfiltered air can ice the fuel injector.
- Do not rely on the gear-down light or the floor window alone as proof that the gear is locked down; they show rod position only.
- Where bladders are fitted, check for water in the fuel and for the reduced usable fuel.