

ENSTROM F28F Model Guide

ENSTROM F28F is a single-engine piston helicopter in the Enstrom F-28 family. Registry data for the whole family shows up to 5 passengers, up to 430 nm range, up to 13000 ft service ceiling and up to 1200 kg MTOW. These are family maximums, not F28F figures. The supplied documents give no F28F-specific weights or speeds, so confirm them in the flight manual.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The registry figures are family-level maximums, not F28F numbers. Get the F28F weights and speeds from its flight manual.
- The F-28F checklist gives idle as 1450-1500 RPM and requires oil pressure above 25 PSI before engaging the rotor.
- Check the logbook for compliance with SDB 0053 (Lycoming oil pump impeller replacement) on F28F engines.
- Ask about avionics: the maintenance supplement covers Garmin GNS 430W/530W, GTN 650, GTX 330 ADS-B Out and others.

SAFETY NOTES

- The copilot collective spring capsule holds about 180 lbs of force when compressed. Secure it with the special tool when disconnecting the collective bellcrank.
- If the engine fails to start in 2-3 seconds, release the starter button and prime before retrying.
- Cool down before shutdown: 1 minute at 2,000 RPM, then idle 2 minutes or until CHT is below 300°F.

START-UP AND RUN-UP REFERENCE

The F-28F checklist runs from start to rotor engagement. Idle is 1450-1500 RPM, and the clutch is engaged slowly with a 1100 RPM minimum. At 3050 RPM, fuel flow should be 65-70 lb/hr cold or 50-65 lb/hr warm, and manifold pressure 16-18 inches. The magneto check allows a maximum 125 RPM drop. The engine should not run rough on a single magneto.

MAINTENANCE ITEMS TO VERIFY

SDB 0053 (April 30, 1981) covers Lycoming oil pump impeller replacement on F28F engines. It exempts engines whose logbook shows the work was done at the factory. The fuel filter and fuel servo screens need correct servicing, especially the filter screen securing pin. SIL 0183 covers collective stick socket replacement for F-28F. Tail rotor drive shaft alignment has a stated tolerance of ±.012 at each bearing.

MODIFICATIONS AND AVIONICS

An Airwolf Aerospace STC (SR03465CH) installs tension-torsion strap assemblies in F28/280 piston models, replacing the Lamiflex thrust bearing. Ask for the paperwork if it is fitted. Enstrom's avionics supplement (Rev. 9, Apr 30/2020) covers SL30 Nav/Com, GNS 430W/530W, GDL 69 XM weather, KX 165A, GTX 330 with ADS-B Out and GTN 650. Check which of these are installed.