

ENSTROM 280FX Model Guide

The ENSTROM 280FX is a piston helicopter from The Enstrom Helicopter Corporation of Menominee, Michigan. Its manual lists a turbocharged Lycoming HIO-360-F1AD engine. The Enstrom 280 family seats up to 3 and is listed at up to 260 nm range. This guide draws on the Operator's Manual and the maintenance manual.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The ENSTROM 280FX flight manual is FAA approved (Rev. 14, Sep 12/24) and must be carried in the helicopter at all times.
- Power: turbocharged Lycoming HIO-360-F1AD, 225 hp maximum continuous, on 100LL or 100/130 avgas.
- Instrument flight and aerobatic maneuvers are prohibited; minimum crew is one pilot, and solo flight is from the left seat only.
- Maintenance data covers the F-28F, 280F and 280FX; check the logs for Service Directive Bulletin compliance.

ENGINE AND OPERATING LIMITS

Maximum continuous power is 225 hp at 3050 RPM and 39.0 in manifold pressure, sea level to 12,000 ft. Limits: cylinder head 500°F, turbine inlet temperature (TIT) 1650°F, oil 245°F, transmission oil 225°F. Normal oil pressure is 60-90 psi. Rotor RPM is 334 minimum, power on.

WEIGHT, SPEED AND ALTITUDE

Power-on VNE is 117 MPH IAS from sea level to 3000 ft density altitude. Power-off (autorotation) VNE is 85 MPH, or the power-on VNE if lower. Maximum approved operating altitude is 12,000 ft density altitude at 2350 lb. Takeoffs and landings at 2600 lb were demonstrated to 7000 ft density altitude.

WHAT TO CHECK WHEN BUYING

Confirm the manual is current. Check the Log of Revisions and Supplements for installed options: dispersal system, floats, external loads, snowshoe, auxiliary fuel tank and exhaust muffler. Confirm the turbocharger installation (STC SE484GL) and the avionics fit. Review the maintenance records for Service Directive Bulletin entries.

SPECIFICATIONS

Max Continuous Power Hp	225
Max Engine Rpm	3050
Min Engine Rpm	2900
Max Manifold Pressure In	39
Max Cylinder Head Temp F	500
Max Oil Temp F	245
Max Transmission Oil Temp F	225
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2600

PERFORMANCE

Service Ceiling Ft	12000
Vne Power On Mph	117
Vne Power Off Mph	85

SAFETY NOTES

- Instrument flight is prohibited, and aerobatic maneuvers are prohibited.
- Hovering in ground effect above 10,000 ft density altitude is limited to five minutes. Do not use the aft landing light for ground or hover operations.
- A warning horn sounds below 334 rotor RPM with the collective off the down stop. Use caution above 10,000 ft density altitude and in winds over 15 MPH.