

ENSTROM 480B Model Guide

ENSTROM 480B is a turbine-powered Enstrom helicopter. The registry lists the 480/480B family as turboshaft, with up to 5 passengers, up to 430 nm range, up to 1200 kg MTOW and up to 13000 ft service ceiling. These are family maxima, not 480B-specific figures. The documents supplied are supplements, service letters and an operator checklist, so confirm the 480B's own limits in the basic flight manual.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The crash resistant fuel system is standard on new 480Bs from S/N 5256. S/N 5255 and earlier can convert when a kit is available through an SIL.
- Cabin cargo must not exceed 800 pounds. Floor loading must stay under 400 psi, and cargo must be restrained with track fittings.
- The turbine SIL index (dated June 30, 2026) lists letters on the fuel cell, pylon doubler and tail rotor gearbox that can affect the 480B.
- EASA-registered 480Bs with the Garmin GMA 350H audio panel must carry supplement 28-AC-073 in the helicopter at all times.

FUEL SYSTEM CHECKS

With the CRFS fitted, preflight checks cover the breakaway fuel valves on both aft fuselage sides and the top area, plus the roll over valve. Perpendicular valve indicator dots mean a closed valve, and maintenance is needed before flight. A roll beyond 27° on takeoff or landing closes the roll over valve. If it sticks, the vent system will not work properly. Unusable fuel is 0.75 gal (US).

SERVICE LETTERS TO REVIEW

Ask for records on SIL T-074R1 (fuel cell bladder assembly, 08/12/24), T-076 (tail rotor gearbox premature gear wear, 06/24/25), T-073 (pylon reinforcement doubler) and T-018 (fuel cell leaks). The index also shows many canceled letters. Check effectivity against the serial number, because it differs between the 480 and 480B.

CABIN CARGO AND LOADING

SIL T-045 says the cabin can be set up as open cargo space. Cargo must stay within the CG envelope and maximum gross weight, and must not exceed 800 pounds. Enstrom recommends at least four track fittings below 500 pounds and six for 501-800 pounds. The pilot must check weight and balance for each flight leg.

SPECIFICATIONS

Unusable Fuel Gal	0.75
-------------------	------

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Cargo Load Lbs	800
--------------------	-----

SAFETY NOTES

- Maintenance action is required before flight if any breakaway fuel valve shows perpendicular indicator dots (closed valve).
- A left or right roll exceeding 27° on takeoff or landing closes the roll over valve. Maintenance action is required to ensure it is open.
- Under the EASA GMA 350H supplement, voice recognition operation is not authorized.