

Piper PA-22 Colt Model Guide

The Piper PA-22 Colt (model PA-22-108) is a two-seat, single-engine, high-wing piston trainer. It has welded steel tube and fabric construction. It is powered by a 108 hp Lycoming O-235 on 80 octane fuel. The library lists production as 1961-1964. This guide covers its figures and the inspection items to check before buying.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The Piper PA-22 Colt is a 2-seat fabric-covered tube-frame airplane with a 108 hp Lycoming O-235-C1B or C1.
- Handbook figures: 120 mph top speed, 108 mph cruise at 75% power, 6 gph, 610 fpm climb, 12,000 ft service ceiling.
- Gross weight is 1650 lbs and standard useful load is 710 lbs, so full fuel plus two adults leaves little margin.
- Check the door-frame and windshield tube corrosion bulletin, the exhaust AD, and the nose gear oleo bearing.

WHAT YOU GET

The Colt is a two-place, high-wing, welded steel tube airplane covered in Grade A fabric. The Lycoming O-235-C1B or C1 is rated 108 hp at 2600 rpm, with dual Scintilla magnetos. The exhaust is a stainless crossover type that supplies cabin and carburetor heat. Standard fuel capacity is 18 US gallons, and the handbook gives 6 quarts of oil.

PERFORMANCE (HANDBOOK, GROSS WEIGHT, SEA LEVEL)

Take-off run is 950 ft and 1500 ft over a 50 ft barrier. Best rate of climb speed is 76 mph (66 kt), and best angle is 60 mph (52 kt). Stall is 57 mph (54 kt). Landing roll is 500 ft and 1250 ft over 50 ft. Cruise is 108 mph at sea level and 115 mph at 7000 ft, both at 75% power. Absolute ceiling is 14,000 ft.

OWNERSHIP AND COST NOTES

The parts catalog covers PA-22 models including the 108. Fabric condition matters. A 2022 Stewart Systems materials estimate for a Pacer/TriPacer full recover (the Colt is named in its package) totalled \$5,006.78. That covers materials and tools only, not labor. Service Letter 1302 lists the PA-22-108 Colt, all serials.

SPECIFICATIONS

Seats	2
Engine Model	Lycoming O-235-C1B or C1
Rated Power Hp	108
Wing Span Ft	30
Length Ft	20
Height Ft	6.25
Propeller Diameter In	74
Fuel Octane	80

PERFORMANCE

Top Speed Kt	105
Cruise Speed 75pct Sea Level Mph	108
Cruise Speed 75pct 7000ft Mph	115
Fuel Burn 75pct Gph	6
Rate Of Climb Fpm	610
Service Ceiling Ft	12000
Takeoff Run Ft	950
Takeoff Over 50ft Ft	1500

V-SPEEDS

Best Rate Of Climb Kts	66
Best Angle Of Climb Kts	52
Stall Speed Kts	54

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Gross Weight Lbs	1650
Empty Weight Standard Lbs	940
Empty Weight Super Custom Lbs	985
Useful Load Standard Lbs	710
Useful Load Super Custom Lbs	665
Fuel Capacity Gal	18
Max Baggage Lbs	100

SAFETY NOTES

- Service Bulletin 819 (Piper considers compliance mandatory): remove and inspect blind door-frame, windshield and baggage tube areas for corrosion. Ask for the logbook entry.
- AD 68-05-01 exhaust inspection: every 100 hrs under 950 hrs of operation, every 50 hrs above that. Check the muffler, shroud and aft cylinder stack Y-joint.
- Service Letter 1302 recommends replacing a locking gascolator drain valve with a non-locking one. A valve left open can cause fuel starvation. Compliance is at the owner's discretion.