

Taylorcraft BC-12D Model Guide

The Taylorcraft BC-12D is a two-place, side-by-side, strut-braced high-wing monoplane. It has a welded-tube, fabric-covered fuselage and fabric-covered wood-spar wings. It uses a Continental A65-8 engine rated at 65 hp. The wing lift struts and their attach fittings are the main inspection items for a buyer.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Two seats side by side, 65 hp Continental A65-8, landplane gross weight 1200 lbs, so the useful load is small.
- Manual figures: 95 mph cruise, about 35 mph power-off stall, 500 fpm climb, 4.2 gph burn from 18 gal.
- Wing lift struts and strut attach fittings are subject to repeating airworthiness inspections.
- Sealed replacement struts end the repetitive strut inspections for the strut they replace.

CONSTRUCTION AND CAPACITY

The fuselage is welded steel tube with fabric covering. The wings have wood spars and formed aluminium ribs. The baggage compartment takes 50 lbs, or 30 lbs on the seaplane version. The main gear uses bungee shock absorption with mechanical brakes and a steerable leaf-spring tail wheel.

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES TO CHECK

The NZ CAA schedule for the BC12-D (29 May 2008) lists nine items. They cover the oil pressure hose, aileron stop pins, fuel shutoff valve, elevator horn, strut fittings, fuel hose, lift struts and lift strut attach fittings. Fuel hose checks repeat every 25 hours. Strut attach fitting P/N A-A11 checks repeat every 48 months. Ask for the compliance records.

LIFT STRUT REPLACEMENT OPTION

Airframes Alaska offers sealed replacement struts under an STC: AF-MA-A815 or AF-MA-A815A (front) and AF-MA-A854 (rear). The front strut part number depends on the attach angle, 2 or 8 degrees. The ICA lists no airworthiness limitations. It calls for 100 hr and annual inspection of weld lines, clevis fretting and corrosion, and rear strut threads.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Power Hp	65
Fuel Capacity Gal	18
Baggage Capacity Lbs	50
Seaplane Baggage Capacity Lbs	30

PERFORMANCE

Rate Of Climb Fpm	500
Fuel Burn Gph	4.2

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Gross Weight Landplane Lbs	1200
Gross Weight Seaplane Lbs	1278
Baggage Capacity Lbs	50
Seaplane Baggage Capacity Lbs	30

SAFETY NOTES

- The lift strut AD warns that corrosion or cracks could cost a wing in flight. Check the bottom 12 inches of each strut and ask for the ultrasound or radiograph records.
- The attach fitting AD (P/N A-A11) has repeating inspections for aircraft that are or were fitted with floats or snow skis. Check the logs for this.
- Damaged or worn wing spar butt fittings must be replaced complete, never welded or bushed, per the service manual.