

Cessna 170 Model Guide

The Cessna 170 is a four-seat, single-engine piston airplane built from 1948 to 1956 in 170, 170A and 170B versions. The FAA data sheet lists a Continental C145-2 engine rated 145 hp at 2700 rpm and a 2200 lb maximum weight in the Normal category. Registry figures for the whole 170 family show up to 104 kt cruise and up to 370 nm range.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Four seats, 120 lb baggage limit, and 2200 lb maximum weight (Normal category) or 1900 lb (Utility category).
- The 170A has a single-strut all-metal wing and a 50° flap setting. The 170B adds slotted flaps. The original 170 has 30° flaps.
- Fuel capacity differs by version: 37.5 gal total (33.5 usable) on the original 170, and 42 gal total (37 usable) on the 170A.
- Family-level registry maxima are up to 104 kt cruise, 370 nm range and a 15500 ft service ceiling. They are not figures for any one variant.

VERSIONS AND WHAT CHANGED

The FAA data sheet covers the 170, 170A and 170B. The 170A has a single-strut all-metal wing, revised ailerons and flaps, a dorsal fin and a gravity fuel system. The 170B adds slotted flaps, a revised horizontal tail and a flap limiter. Serial numbers 18000 through 18729 are the original 170. Serial numbers 18730 through 20266, except 19401, are the 170A.

LIMITS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

Per the FAA data sheet, the original 170 uses 80 minimum octane fuel and has a 2700 rpm limit. Its never-exceed speed is 139 kt, maximum structural cruising speed is 122 kt, maneuvering speed is 100 kt and flaps-extended speed is 78 kt. The 170A raises the flaps-extended speed to 87 kt. Normal category weight is 2200 lb and Utility category weight is 1900 lb.

PARTS, FLOATS AND SUPPORT

Original Cessna door hinge pins can only be removed by destroying them. McFarlane Aviation makes FAA-approved (PMA) replacement hinges and reusable pins for the 170 series, and recommends replacing the upper and lower hinges together. For 170A and 170B airplanes on Wipline 2100A floats, the Cessna hydraulic pump has been discontinued. Wipaire Service Letter 233 offers a replacement pump as an optional change.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Power Hp	145
Oil Capacity Gal	2
Model 170 Fuel Total Gal	37.5
Model 170 Fuel Usable Gal	33.5
Model 170a Fuel Total Gal	42
Model 170a Fuel Usable Gal	37

PERFORMANCE

Family Max Cruise Speed Kt	104
Family Max Range Nm	370
Family Max Service Ceiling Ft	15500

V-SPEEDS

Never Exceed Kts	139
Max Structural Cruising Kts	122
Maneuvering Kts	100
Flaps Extended Model 170 Kts	78
Flaps Extended Model 170a Kts	87

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Weight Normal Category Lbs	2200
Max Weight Utility Category Lbs	1900
Max Baggage Lbs	120

SAFETY NOTES

- Check the cigar lighter wiring AD (CASA AD/CESSNA 170/72) on serials 18000-20999 and 25000-27169. It addresses shorting that can cause smoke or fire behind the panel.
- The 170A operation manual says not to operate with less than four quarts of oil. It also says to drain a small amount of fuel from the strainer on the first flight of the day.
- The 170A operation manual says takeoff on less than 1/4 tank is not recommended.