Beechcraft 55 Baron Model Guide

The Beechcraft 55 Baron is a twin-engine piston aircraft built from 1961 to 1982, seating 4 to 6. The E55 handbook lists two Continental IO-520-C engines at 285 hp each, a 5300 lb maximum takeoff weight and 100 gal usable fuel in the standard system. The family includes the D55, D55A, D95A, E55, E55A and E95. Figures below come from the E55 handbook and a BE55 checklist, so check the POH for your serial number.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Handbooks are serial-specific: the E55 covers TE-938 and TE-943 thru TE-1083; the 95-B55 covers TC-1608 thru TC-2002.
- The E55 is limited to 5300 lb at takeoff. The E55A reduced-gross configuration is limited to 4990 lb.
- Usable fuel is 100 gal standard, or 136 or 166 gal with optional systems. 100LL is preferred; 100 is the minimum grade.
- The inspection guide requires a complete inspection every 12 months, plus altimeter and transponder tests every 24 months.

SPACE AND LOADING (E55 HANDBOOK)

The cabin is 11 ft 9 in long, 4 ft 2 in high and 3 ft 6 in wide. The entrance door is 37 in x 36 in. Baggage space is 35 cu ft in the main cabin, 10 cu ft in the extended aft compartment and 18 cu ft in the nose. Each engine holds 12 quarts of oil.

INSPECTION AND MODIFICATIONS

The long-form guide covers Baron 55, 56TC and 58 airplanes. Intervals should never be exceeded by more than 10 hours, and humid or cold, damp climates may need more frequent inspections. Ask about STCs. Hartzell fluid anti-ice propellers are not approved on E55/E55A aircraft with air conditioning, which use J3YF extended-hub propellers. Vortex generators need a preflight check for missing units.

CHECKOUT AND MODEL DIFFERENCES

The American Bonanza Society checkout guide covers the 95-55 through G58 and urges a Beech-knowledgeable instructor. Checklists differ by model. The A55 checklist gives rotate at 80 KIAS and gear down below 143 KIAS. The BE55 checklist gives rotate at 75 KIAS and gear extension below 153 KIAS. Use the POH for the specific airplane.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Power Hp	285
Max Ramp Weight Lbs	5324
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	5300
Max Landing Weight Lbs	5300
E55a Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	4990
Usable Fuel Standard Gal	100
Usable Fuel Optional Gal	136
Usable Fuel Largest Option Gal	166

PERFORMANCE

Family Max Cruise Speed Kts	188
Family Max Range Nm	1100
Family Max Service Ceiling Ft	21000

V-SPEEDS

Vs0 Kts	72
Vs Kts	76
Vmca Kts	80
Va Kts	156
Vfe Flaps 30 Kts	122
Vle Kts	153
Vno Kts	182
Vne Kts	223

WEIGHT & BALANCE

E55 Max Ramp Weight Lbs	5324
E55 Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	5300
E55 Max Landing Weight Lbs	5300
E55a Max Ramp Weight Lbs	5014
E55a Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	4990
E55a Max Landing Weight Lbs	4990

SAFETY NOTES

- Manual gear extension (A55 guide): slow to 100-120 kts, pull the landing gear motor circuit breaker, lower the gear lever, then hand crank.
- Engine failure after liftoff but before gear retraction, below Vmc: land straight ahead. After gear retraction: continue, pitch for Vyse 100 kts, fly straight, secure the failed engine.
- Pilots new to Barons should fly with a Beech-knowledgeable instructor. A checklist is a guide, not a substitute for the POH.

AI-aggregated guide for the Beechcraft 55 Baron · sources: Beechcraft 55 Baron Pilot's Operating Handbook (#15694) · Beechcraft 55 Baron Pilot's Operating Handbook (#15691) · NORMAL CHECKLIST - BEECHCRAFT BARON BE55 (#15703) · Baron 55-A55 1961-1963 (#15695) · Baron 55-A55 Maneuvers Guide (#15704) · 100 Hour or Annual Long Form Inspection Guide (#15414) · Airplane Flight Manual for Beechcraft 55 Baron (#15701) · Weight & Balance for Beechcraft 55 Baron (#15708) · ABS/BPPP Guide to Initial Pilot Checkout: Normally Aspirated Barons (#15779) · generated 2026-10-16 · Reference only, not for flight. Check the original documents before relying on this guide.