

CESSNA 180K Model Guide

CESSNA 180K is a single-engine piston airplane and the last variant in the Cessna 180 family list. The registry shows the whole family reaching up to 5 passengers, 141 kt cruise, 890 nm range and a 20,000 ft ceiling. Those are family maximums, not CESSNA 180K figures. The documents here mostly cover float, ski and airframe-inspection topics.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The registry figures are 180-family maximums, so confirm CESSNA 180K numbers in its own flight manual.
- Float STC: 3190 lb max ramp, takeoff and landing weight, with 100 lb allowed in each float baggage compartment.
- Tail cone reinforcement angles are known to crack at the rear stabilizer attach pivot; inspect them before buying.
- A 1997 float-equipped 180K crash was consistent with a stall and loss of control after a go-around.

FLOAT AND SKI VERSIONS

A Kenmore Air Harbor STC with Aerocet 3500/3500L floats is approved for the 180K. Stall speed power off, forward CG, is 57.9 KCAS flaps up and 53.4 KCAS flaps down. Pump both floats before every flight, because water in the floats can shift the CG. TrickAir Model 3000 skis are also documented for the 180K.

WEIGHT AND BALANCE (FLOAT STC)

Maximum ramp, takeoff and landing weight is 3190 lb. The CG range is +40.0 to +45.0 inches aft of datum at 3190 lb, and +36.0 to +45.0 at 2400 lb or less. The owner and pilot are responsible for loading the airplane within these limits. Check the actual weight and balance form for the empty weight.

WHAT TO INSPECT

Cessna Service Letter SEL-55-01 covers possible cracks in the tail cone reinforcement angles (P/N 0712207-1 and -2), which includes the 180K. A McFarlane STC splice repairs the cracked section. Also check the floats and attachments for dents, cracks and punctures. Replacement door hinges are available as PMA parts.

PERFORMANCE

Float Stall Flaps Up Kts	57.9
Float Stall Flaps Down Kts	53.4

V-SPEEDS

Never Exceed Float Kts	167
Maneuvering Float Kts	108

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Ramp Weight Lbs	3190
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	3190
Max Landing Weight Lbs	3190
Float Baggage Each Lbs	100
Cg Forward Limit At 3190 Lbs Inches	40
Cg Aft Limit Inches	45
Cg Forward Limit At 2400 Lbs Inches	36

SAFETY NOTES

- Cracks in the tail cone reinforcement angles form at the rear stabilizer attach pivot; have them inspected under SEL-55-01.
- On floats, retract the water rudders for takeoff and landing, and keep the control wheel full aft through deceleration.
- Stall recovery on floats can lose as much as 200 feet of altitude.