

CESSNA P-210 Pressurized Centurion II Model Guide

The CESSNA P-210 Pressurized Centurion II is a turbocharged, pressurized, single-engine piston airplane that seats six including the pilot. Most figures here come from a June 1978 AOPA Pilot flight check of an early P210, listed as a P210N. Later airplanes may differ, so confirm each figure against the POH for the airframe you are buying.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Normal cruise is 196 kt at 80% power at 20,000 ft, with 815 nm range and 45-min reserve. Certified ceiling is 23,000 ft (1978 data).
- Gross weight is 4,000 lb, empty weight 2,345 lb, useful load 1,671 lb. Fuel is 90 gal (89 usable), and the baggage limit is 200 lb.
- Cabin pressure depends on turbocharger boost. Keep manifold pressure near 20 in or above, and never let a tank run dry.
- Pilots new to pressurization were advised to expect a two- to three-hour systems briefing plus a three-hour in-flight checkup.

PERFORMANCE AND PRESSURIZATION

Maximum pressure differential is 3.35 psi. At 20,000 ft the cabin can be held at 10,000 ft. The test airplane climbed to 20,000 ft in about 20 minutes. At 79% power (33 in, 2,500 rpm) it burned 19.2 gph for 198 kt true. At 55% power (25 in, 2,300 rpm) it burned 12.5 gph for 171 kt true.

WHAT TO CHECK WHEN BUYING

The 1985-86 P210R serial numbers run P21000835 to P21000874. The service manual's temporary revisions add a fuel injection nozzle cleaning interval, a Component Time Limits section and a fuel quantity indicating system operational test. Ask for records showing these were done. Inspect the single left main door, which has nine locking pins, and the half-size right emergency exit.

HANDLING AND OWNERSHIP NOTES

With two aboard and full fuel, a takeoff used almost 1,500 ft of a 3,800 ft runway, and the airplane felt heavy and a little sluggish. Plan descents early: ground speed in descent is 200 to 220 kt, so start about 80 miles out from 18,000 ft. Gear can be extended below 140 kt, and flaps at 10 degrees below 150 kt.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Power Hp	285
Propeller Diameter In	80
Fuel Capacity Gal	90
Usable Fuel Gal	89

PERFORMANCE

Max Level Speed Kts	204
Normal Cruise Speed Kts	196
Economy Cruise Speed Kts	158
Rate Of Climb Fpm	930
Service Ceiling Ft	23000
Range Normal Cruise Nm	815
Max Range Nm	960
Takeoff Ground Roll Ft	1300

V-SPEEDS

Stall Clean Kts	67
Stall Gear Flaps Down Kts	58
Max Gear Extended Speed Kts	140
Max Flap 10 Speed Kts	150

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Ramp Weight Lbs	4016
Gross Weight Lbs	4000
Empty Weight Lbs	2345
Useful Load Lbs	1671
Baggage Capacity Lbs	200

SAFETY NOTES

- Running a tank dry loses engine power and pressurization, and cabin altitude climbs abruptly.
- A quick cabin-altitude dial change or a large power reduction causes sudden ear pressure changes. Set cabin altitude above the destination field elevation before landing.
- The flight-check airplane had boots, prop heat and a windshield anti-ice plate but was not certified for flight in icing conditions.