

CESSNA 172E SKYHAWK Model Guide

The CESSNA 172E SKYHAWK is a single-engine piston Cessna with a 150 hp Lycoming O-320 and a McCauley 1A170/DM propeller. Listed figures are 110 kt cruise, 600 nm range, 40 gal of fuel, 2400 lb max takeoff weight and 850 lb useful load. The wider 172 family is listed with up to 4 passengers.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Listed cruise is 110 kt at about 10 gph, with a 600 nm range on 40 gal of fuel.
- Empty weight is 1550 lb and useful load is 850 lb, with up to 120 lb in the baggage area. Max takeoff weight is 2400 lb.
- Older 172 handbooks in the file show 2300 lb gross weight and Continental power. Check the weights and engine of the airplane you inspect.
- Listed climb is 730 fpm and service ceiling is 14000 ft. Max demonstrated crosswind is 15 kt.

PERFORMANCE AND RUNWAY NEEDS

Listed takeoff distance is 1500 ft, or 2000 ft to clear a 50 ft obstacle. Landing distance is 1200 ft, or 1500 ft over 50 ft. Climb is 730 fpm. Stall is 50 kt clean and 45 kt in landing configuration. Best glide is 65 kt.

WHAT TO CHECK ON A PRE-BUY

The USAF T-41C (172E) checklist gives these checks. Oil: 6 quarts minimum, 8 maximum. Brake pads: 3/32 inch minimum. Magnetos at run-up: 150 RPM maximum drop and 50 RPM maximum difference. Drain the fuel strainer for 4 seconds. Also confirm that the engine and propeller match the listed Lycoming O-320 and McCauley 1A170/DM. A Cleveland wheel and brake conversion kit is listed for 172/Skyhawk models, so check which brakes are fitted.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Hp	150
Fuel Capacity Gal	40
Empty Weight Lbs	1550
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2400
Range Nm	600
Wingspan Ft	36
Length Ft	27
Height Ft	8

PERFORMANCE

Cruise Speed Kts	110
Max Speed Kts	124
Fuel Burn Gph	10
Rate Of Climb Fpm	730
Service Ceiling Ft	14000
Takeoff Distance Ft	1500
Landing Distance Ft	1200
Max Crosswind Kts	15

V-SPEEDS

Vso Kts	40
Vs1 Kts	48
Vx Kts	62
Vy Kts	74
Vfe Kts	85
Va Kts	105
Vno Kts	125
Vne Kts	163

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Basic Empty Weight Lbs	1550
Useful Load Lbs	850
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2400
Max Ramp Weight Lbs	2400
Max Landing Weight Lbs	2400
Baggage Allowance Lbs	120
Cg Forward Limit Inches	34
Cg Aft Limit Inches	40

SAFETY NOTES

- Do not operate with less than 6 quarts of oil (T-41C 172E checklist).
- Drain the fuel strainer for 4 seconds and check the sample before flight.
- At run-up, a magneto drop over 150 RPM or a difference over 50 RPM between magnetos is outside the checklist limits.