

CESSNA 185 FLOATPLANE Model Guide

The CESSNA 185 FLOATPLANE is a single-engine piston floatplane with a 300 hp Continental IO-520-U and a 2-bladed propeller. The supplement covered here applies to Aerocet 3500 and 3500L floats. Cruise is 105 kts, range is 600 nm and max takeoff weight is 3350 lbs.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Cruises at 105 kts on 12 gph, with a listed range of 600 nm and a service ceiling of 18000 ft.
- Max takeoff and landing weight is 3350 lbs. Useful load is 1250 lbs, and each float holds up to 100 lbs of baggage.
- Flown in the Normal category only. Stalls are 60 kts flaps up and 55 kts flaps down at 3350 lbs.
- Check the floats for dents, cracks and punctures, and pump out every float compartment before flying.

FLOAT SETUP AND WHAT CHANGES

The Aerocet 3500 or 3500L floats replace the landing gear and add water rudders. The Cessna seaplane kit is also required. It adds a structural V brace, extra fuselage structure, a rudder centering spring, extra corrosion proofing, stainless cables and hoisting provisions. The supplement must be carried in the airplane.

LOADING AND CENTER OF GRAVITY

CG limits are 41.9 to 46.5 inches aft of datum at 3350 lbs. At 2200 lbs or less the range is 35.1 to 46.5 inches, with a straight line between the two points. Max ramp (dock) weight is 3362 lbs. Float baggage is limited to 100 lbs per float, so check CG when loading. Use the actual weight and balance form for this airplane's empty weight.

TRAINING AND CHECKOUT

A CAP seaplane syllabus for the single engine sea rating uses 11 hours of ground training and 10.5 hours of flight training. Alaska Wing CAP rules treat the C-185 as a specialty aircraft. They require a type and configuration checkout, and 25 hours in type and configuration to instruct.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Hp	300
Wingspan Ft	36
Length Ft	26
Height Ft	8
Empty Weight Lbs	1600
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	3350
Max Ramp Weight Lbs	3362
Fuel Capacity Gal	38

PERFORMANCE

Cruise Speed Kts	105
Max Speed Kts	130
Range Nm	600
Fuel Burn Gph	12
Rate Of Climb Fpm	690
Service Ceiling Ft	18000
Takeoff Distance Ft	1200
Landing Distance Ft	800

V-SPEEDS

Vne Kts	179
Vno Kts	143
Va Kts	115
Vfe Kts	110
Vx Kts	75
Vy Kts	85
Vs1 Kts	60
Best Glide Speed Kts	70

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Ramp Weight Lbs	3362
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	3350
Max Landing Weight Lbs	3350
Useful Load Lbs	1250
Baggage Per Float Lbs	100
Cg Forward Limit At 3350 Lbs Inches	41.9
Cg Aft Limit Inches	46.5
Cg Forward Limit At 2200 Lbs Inches	35.1

SAFETY NOTES

- Keep water rudders up except when water taxiing. Put them down after landing and check them before starting the engine.
- If a float compartment floods, shift people and baggage away from the damaged side to keep the airplane over the buoyant compartments. Excess water in a compartment means look for a leak.
- Altitude loss during stall recovery may be as much as 200 feet. Land slightly tail low and hold the control wheel full aft through deceleration.