

CESSNA 172S SKYHAWK SP Model Guide

The CESSNA 172S SKYHAWK SP is a single-engine piston Cessna powered by a 180 hp Textron Lycoming IO-360-L2A with a fixed-pitch 76 inch propeller. Book figures: 2550 lbs max takeoff weight, 895 lbs useful load, 124 kts cruise and 518 nm range. It was built with either a NAV III KAP 140 or GFC 700 avionics package.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Max takeoff weight is 2550 lbs. Standard empty weight is 1663 lbs, max useful load is 895 lbs, baggage allowance is 120 lbs.
- Cruise is 124 kts at 75% power at 8500 ft. Range is 518 nm on 53 gallons usable fuel (56 gallons total).
- Takeoff ground roll is 960 ft (1630 ft over a 50 ft obstacle). Landing roll is 575 ft (1335 ft over 50 ft).
- Check which avionics and autopilot the airframe has: KAP 140 or GFC 700. Its serial number decides which manual applies.

WEIGHTS AND LOADING

Book empty weight is 1663 lbs and useful load is 895 lbs, with max ramp weight 2558 lbs. Sample weighed 172S/SP aircraft show empty weights from 1666.95 to 1757.10 lbs and useful loads of 792.90 to 883.05 lbs. Get the actual weight and balance for the airplane you are buying.

AVIONICS AND MANUAL MATCH

The NAV III KAP 140 autopilot manual covers serials from 172S9810, up to the 172S10655 range. The NAV III GFC 700 AFCS manual covers 172S10468, 172S10507, 172S10640 and 172S10656 and on. Published speeds assume speed fairings, which add about 2 knots. Confirm that they are fitted.

HANDLING NUMBERS

Stall speed is 53 kts flaps up and 48 kts flaps down. Rotate at 55 kts, best angle of climb is 62 kts and best rate of climb is 74 kts. Best glide is 68 kts. Maximum demonstrated crosswind is 15 kts. Rate of climb is 730 fpm at sea level and service ceiling is 14000 ft.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Hp	180
Propeller Diameter Inches	76
Wingspan Ft	36
Length Ft	27
Height Ft	8
Fuel Capacity Gal	56
Empty Weight Lbs	1663
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2550

PERFORMANCE

Cruise Speed Kts	124
Max Speed Kts	126
Range Nm	518
Rate Of Climb Fpm	730
Service Ceiling Ft	14000
Fuel Burn Gph	8.6
Takeoff Distance Ft	960
Landing Distance Ft	575

V-SPEEDS

Vr Kts	55
Vx Kts	62
Vy Kts	74
Va Kts	105
Vno Kts	129
Vne Kts	163
Vs1 Kts	48
Vso Kts	40

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Empty Weight Lbs	1663
Useful Load Lbs	895
Max Ramp Weight Lbs	2558
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2550
Max Landing Weight Lbs	2550
Baggage Allowance Lbs	120

SAFETY NOTES

- Book performance assumes 2550 lbs, standard atmosphere, level hard dry runway and no wind. Real airplanes will vary.
- The information-manual copies are not kept current. The official POH must be carried in the airplane.
- Best glide speed is 68 kts. Never exceed speed (Vne) is 163 kts, and maneuvering speed at 2550 lbs is 105 kts.