

CESSNA L-19 Bird Dog 305C Model Guide

The CESSNA L-19 Bird Dog 305C is a single-engine piston, tandem-style observation and utility aircraft of the Cessna 305 family. It has a Continental O-470 of 230 hp, a McCauley 3-blade propeller, a 2400 lb maximum takeoff weight and 36 gal of fuel. Regulators in Norway and France list it as an accepted type.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The CESSNA L-19 Bird Dog 305C has a Continental O-470 (230 hp) and a 2400 lb maximum takeoff weight.
- It cruises at 100 kts and burns about 10 gph. Listed range is 600 nm, but the family registry shows up to 430 nm.
- Norway lists the 305C Bird Dog as a common type already holding airworthiness certificates. France lists it for a restricted collection-aircraft certificate.
- Treat it as a former-military type: check records, engine and propeller documentation, and the maintenance report.

PERFORMANCE AND LOADS

The CESSNA L-19 Bird Dog 305C cruises at 100 kts, tops out at 120 kts, and climbs about 1000 fpm. Takeoff roll is 1000 ft (1500 ft over 50 ft). Landing roll is 800 ft (1200 ft over 50 ft). Useful load is 800 lbs, with a 200 lb baggage allowance. Demonstrated crosswind is 15 kts.

REGULATORY STATUS

Norway's national certification guidance lists the 305C Bird Dog among common types already holding airworthiness certificates, so new individuals can normally be certified if airworthy. France's CNRAC list includes the 305 C Bird Dog, with no maintenance programme acceptance required. Check the rules in your own country.

WHAT TO CHECK WHEN BUYING

Norwegian guidance requires engine, propeller and other critical components to be documented as airworthy, for example via the technical log or maintenance records. A maintenance report is issued at the 100-hour or annual inspection and is valid for 12 months. Former military aircraft may face extra operating-organisation requirements.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Hp	230
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2400
Empty Weight Lbs	1600
Fuel Capacity Gal	36
Cruise Speed Kts	100
Max Speed Kts	120
Range Nm	600
Service Ceiling Ft	15000

PERFORMANCE

Rate Of Climb Fpm	1000
Fuel Burn Gph	10
Takeoff Distance Ft	1000
Takeoff Over 50ft	1500
Landing Distance Ft	800
Landing Over 50ft	1200
Max Crosswind Kts	15
Best Glide Speed Kts	70

V-SPEEDS

Vr Kts	65
Vx Kts	70
Vy Kts	75
Vs1 Kts	60
Vso Kts	50
Vfe Kts	85
Vno Kts	125
Vne Kts	140

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Useful Load Lbs	800
Baggage Allowance Lbs	200
Basic Empty Weight Lbs	1600
Max Ramp Weight Lbs	2400
Max Landing Weight Lbs	2400
Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2400
Cg Forward Limit Inches	36
Cg Aft Limit Inches	46

SAFETY NOTES

- Stall is 60 kts clean and 50 kts in landing configuration. Vne is 140 kts, Vno 125 kts, and flap limit speed (Vfe) 85 kts.
- Keep CG within 36 to 46 inches and do not exceed 2400 lbs takeoff weight.
- Range and speed figures differ between sources (600 nm listed here, family maximum 430 nm). Verify against the aircraft's own flight manual.