

CESSNA 172B Model Guide

CESSNA 172B is a single-engine piston Cessna from the early 172 line. It is powered by a Continental six-cylinder, 145 hp engine. The only variant-era source here is a Cessna owner's manual covering the Model 172 and Skyhawk. Check its figures against the airplane's own papers before relying on them.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Manual lists a 2200 lb gross weight, 42 gal total fuel and a 145 hp Continental six-cylinder engine.
- Manual lists a 780 ft takeoff ground run, 1370 ft over a 50 ft obstacle, and a 680 ft landing roll.
- Service ceiling is listed at 15,100 ft. Treat this as a light, short-range tourer with a four-seat family ceiling of 17,000 ft.
- The manual's engine is the O-300-C or O-300-D. Confirm which engine and starter this airplane has.

WHAT THE OWNER'S MANUAL SAYS

The manual describes both the Model 172 and the Skyhawk. It shows gross weight 2200 lbs, approx. empty weight 1255 lbs (first table column), 42 gal fuel and 8 qts oil. Its range figure at 70% power at 8000 ft is 565 mi, with 39 gal and no reserve.

ENGINE AND SYSTEMS TO INSPECT

The Continental engine is horizontally opposed, with a wet-sump oil system, dual magnetos and an updraft carburetor. The O-300-C has a mechanically engaged starter. The O-300-D has an electric push-button starter and a vacuum pump provision. Check the mixture control locking lever and the fuel tank sump drains.

FAMILY CONTEXT (NOT THIS VARIANT)

Registry data covers the whole 172 family, which includes the 172B. Across all variants it shows up to 140 kt cruise, up to 700 nm range, a 17,000 ft ceiling and up to 4 passengers. Use these only as family-level context; the 172B's own figures are in the manual.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Rated Hp	145
Fuel Capacity Gal	42

PERFORMANCE

Service Ceiling Ft	15100
Takeoff Ground Run Ft	780
Takeoff Distance Over 50ft Ft	1370
Landing Roll Ft	680
Landing Distance Over 50ft Ft	1115

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Gross Weight Lbs	2200
Empty Weight Lbs	1255

SAFETY NOTES

- Check the fuel tank sump drains and fuel strainer drain at inspection; the manual lists these as ground-check items.
- If a Middle Fork Mods tail tie-down STC is installed, inspect the rudder cable for contact with the fairing screw. The bulletin sets a limit of 16 flight hours.