

CESSNA 310R Model Guide

The CESSNA 310R is a piston twin with two 285 hp Continental IO-520-M fuel-injected engines driving three-bladed constant-speed, full-feathering propellers. The 1976 handbook gives a 5500 lb maximum takeoff weight, 207 KTAS maximum speed at sea level and 194 KTAS recommended cruise. Buyers should focus on engine times, the retractable gear, and compliance with the mandatory elevator trim-tab service bulletin.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Maximum takeoff weight is 5500 lb and maximum landing weight is 5400 lb. Maximum zero fuel weight is 4900 lb.
- Handbook figures: 1662 fpm climb with both engines, 370 fpm on one engine. Single-engine service ceiling is 7400 ft.
- Standard tanks hold 100 gal usable. 75% power at 7500 ft gives 494 nm range with reserves.
- Service bulletin MEB-27-02 (elevator trim-tab hardware) is mandatory at the next 100-hour or 12-month inspection.

WHAT IT CARRIES AND HOW IT PERFORMS

The handbook lists a standard empty weight of 3337 lb for the 310R and 3578 lb for the 310R II. Baggage limits are 350 lb in the nose bay and 120 lb in each wing locker. The aft cabin is limited to 200 lb at Station 96 and 160 lb at Station 124. Takeoff ground roll at 5500 lb is 1335 ft, or 1700 ft over a 50 ft obstacle. Landing ground roll at 5400 lb is 640 ft.

FUEL AND RANGE OPTIONS

Standard fuel is 102 gal total, 100 gal usable. Optional 40 gal or 63 gal auxiliary tanks and wing locker tanks raise this to as much as 207 gal total, 203 gal usable. Range with recommended lean mixture at 75% power and 7500 ft is 494 nm on 600 lb of fuel. It is 884 nm on 978 lb and 1132 nm on 1218 lb. Reserve is 45 minutes at 45% power. Check which tanks the airplane actually has.

WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE BUYING

An owner-guide source says engine hours drive the price, because overhauling two engines is very costly. It quotes a recommended overhaul time of 1700 hours. It lists cracked fuel tank mounts, broken horizontal stabilizer attach bolts and cracked brake discs as known concerns. It also says the retractable gear wears more than fixed gear. It advises a thorough pre-purchase inspection.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Horsepower Hp	285
Fuel Capacity Gal	102
Usable Fuel Gal	100
Max Fuel Capacity Gal	207
Max Usable Fuel Gal	203

PERFORMANCE

Max Speed Kts	207
Cruise Speed Kts	194
Range Nm	494
Climb Rate Fpm	1662
Single Engine Climb Rate Fpm	370
Service Ceiling Ft	19750
Single Engine Service Ceiling Ft	7400
Takeoff Ground Roll Ft	1335

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	5500
Max Landing Weight Lbs	5400
Max Zero Fuel Weight Lbs	4900
Standard Empty Weight Lbs	3337
Nose Baggage Max Lbs	350
Wing Locker Max Lbs	120
Aft Cabin Station 96 Max Lbs	200
Aft Cabin Station 124 Max Lbs	160

SAFETY NOTES

- MEB-27-02 is mandatory for all 310 through 310R. Verify the logbook entry showing the trim-tab push-pull tube hardware was replaced.
- Single-engine service ceiling is only 7400 ft and single-engine climb is 370 fpm. Plan terrain and loading accordingly.
- Do not operate an engine on less than 9 quarts of oil. Fill to capacity for flights of 3 hours or more.