

PIPER PA-31-350 Chieftain Model Guide

The PIPER PA-31-350 Chieftain is a piston twin in the PA-31 family (PA-31, PA-31-300, PA-31-325, PA-31-350). Family-level maxima are up to 8 passengers, 880 nm range, 183 kt cruise and 24000 ft service ceiling. These are not figures for this exact variant. The documents used here are a 1973 service bulletin and a parts catalog.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Family-level maxima: up to 8 passengers, 880 nm range, 183 kt cruise, 24000 ft ceiling. Check this airplane's own handbook for its figures.
- The T1020 parts catalog covers 1982 to 1984 model-year serials, starting at 31-8253001. Piper built it in Lakeland, Florida.
- Service Bulletin 394 (1973) warns pilots not to put their feet on the rudder-pedal torque tube. Confirm the warning is in the handbook.
- The catalog lists commuter and cargo cabin versions and many options, including deicing, air conditioning, oxygen and autopilots.

SAFETY NOTES

- Service Bulletin 394 (effective October 1973, compliance immediate) lists the PA-31-350 Navajo Chieftain. Feet can land on the torque tube instead of the pedals and toe brakes.
- The bulletin requires a warning insert in the handbook or manual and a log book entry. Check the logs for that entry.
- The parts catalog says it must not be used for rigging and installation purposes.

SERIAL NUMBERS AND IDENTIFICATION

Catalog T1020 serials: 1982 models 31-8253001 to 31-8253012, 1983 models 31-8353001 to 31-8353007, 1984 models 31-8453001 and up. A serial number encodes type certificate, model year, model code and sequence number. Give model and serial number when ordering parts.

SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT TO INSPECT

The catalog lists a hydraulic system with landing gear selector, an emergency gear extension system, three-blade propellers with synchrophaser, pneumatic and electric propeller deicing, heater, air conditioning, oxygen, and King KAP-200 or Century 41 autopilots. Check which are fitted and working.

CABIN LAYOUTS AND PARTS SUPPORT

Cabin furnishings are listed for commuter and cargo versions, with a cargo door, forward baggage door, crew seats and seat assemblies up to the 10th and 11th. Parts come through Piper distributors and dealers. The catalog's revision history runs to an interim April 1986 update.