

PIPER PA-32R-300 Lance Model Guide

The PIPER PA-32R-300 Lance is a single-engine piston airplane with hydraulically actuated landing gear and a back-up gear extender. It was built under serial numbers 32R-7680001 through 32R-7880068. The documents supplied are maintenance-focused and give no Lance-specific performance or weight data, so this guide centres on what to inspect before buying.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Check AD 93-05-10 status: engine mount crack inspection every 100 hrs until Part 2 of Piper SB 955 is done.
- Piper SB 805A is mandatory: until Hartzell SB 142B is verified, use no multigrade oil and keep a placard at the oil filler.
- Inspect the muffler wear areas where the shroud rests; riser stack ends can flare and seize inside the muffler.
- The 32R family reaches up to 177 kt cruise and 960 nm range; these are family maximums, not Lance figures.

SAFETY NOTES

- Do not use multigrade oil until Hartzell SB 142B compliance is verified; Piper considers SB 805A compliance mandatory.
- Engine mount cracks: AD 93-05-10 requires repeat inspection every 100 hrs until Piper SB 955 Part 2 is done.
- Muffler wear where the shroud rests on it needs inspection; seized riser stacks can complicate muffler replacement.

AIRWORTHINESS ITEMS TO VERIFY

AD 93-05-10 covers the PA-32R-300 (S/N 32R-7680001 thru 32R-7880068). It requires an engine mount crack inspection every 100 hrs until Part 2 of Piper SB 955 is accomplished. It also requires an inspection of the muffler for wear where the shroud rests on it. Ask for logbook proof of compliance.

PROPELLER AND OIL COMPATIBILITY

Piper SB 805A lists the PA-32R-300 Lance. Older Hartzell constant-speed prop hubs can suffer O-ring deterioration with multigrade oil, which risks loss of pitch control. Until Hartzell SB 142B is verified, a placard is required: 'Use of Multigrade oil is prohibited.' Props overhauled after August 31, 1983 should already be compliant; check the return-to-service tag.

EXHAUST, GEAR AND GENERAL INSPECTION

Riser slip joints should move freely to avoid stress on the muffler end plates. Check that the stacks can be removed before ordering just a muffler. The Cherokee Six service manual covers the PA-32R-300 hydraulic system, gear and brakes, and the back-up extender. Its inspection items include muffler fatigue areas, main gear torque links, flap control cable bolts and seat belt hardware.