

PIPER PA-44-180T Turbo Seminole Model Guide

The PIPER PA-44-180T Turbo Seminole is a twin-engine piston airplane, the turbocharged variant in the PA-44 family (PA-44-180 and PA-44-180T). Its FAA-approved handbook, report VB-1100, was issued March 14, 1980 and last revised October 10, 2005. Family-wide, the registry shows up to 4 passengers, 157 kt cruise and 830 nm range.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Family-level maxima, not this variant: up to 4 passengers, 157 kt cruise, 830 nm range, 17000 ft ceiling, 1700 kg max takeoff weight.
- The Turbo Seminole handbook gives a wing area of 183.8 sq ft and a minimum turning radius of 33.0 ft.
- Service Bulletin 977 covers a rear wing attach fitting corrosion inspection for listed PA-44-180T serial numbers.
- The handbook log runs to Rev. 12 (October 10, 2005). Confirm the airplane's copy is current.

HANDBOOK AND PAPERWORK

The handbook applies only to the airplane whose serial and registration numbers are on its title page. It must be kept current and carried in the airplane. Revisions added supplements for air conditioning, Century 21 and Century 41 autopilots, weather radar, a control wheel clock, and prop heat with an ice light. Check which equipment the airplane actually has.

WING REAR ATTACH FITTING (SB 977)

Piper Service Bulletin 977 (December 12, 1994) cites field reports of corrosion on the steel rear wing attach fitting. Leaking window or door seals let water wet the insulation around the fitting. It requires inspecting the fittings and the window and door seals, adding floor inspection panels if missing, and drilling drain holes. Compliance is due at the next scheduled maintenance, within 100 hours. Ask for the logbook entry.

CHECKLIST CAVEAT

The only checklist supplied is an East Coast Aero Club normal-procedures checklist for the PA44-180, not the turbo. Do not take speeds or procedures from it for the Turbo Seminole. Use the PA-44-180T handbook for limits and procedures.

SPECIFICATIONS

Wing Area Sq Ft	183.8
Min Turning Radius Ft	33

SAFETY NOTES

- Corrosion on the rear wing attach fitting can be hidden. Flaking paint may be a symptom, so have the fittings inspected.
- The owner is responsible for airworthiness. The pilot must stay within the limits in the handbook, markings and placards.
- The handbook cannot be used for operational purposes unless it is kept current.