

Cessna Citation 500 Model Guide

The Cessna Citation 500 is a light twin-engine jet built from 1972 to 1985. It seats 5 to 7. The wider Citation family reaches up to 1210 nm range, up to 357 kt cruise and up to a 41000 ft service ceiling. Those are family maxima, not figures for the Cessna Citation 500 itself. Most buyer risk sits in brakes, engine and fuel-control history, and pilot training.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Light twin jet, 1972-1985 production, 5 to 7 seats; the family is registered as turbofan-powered.
- Check the brake type and AD compliance: a CASA AD covers 500/501 serials 0001-0689 with certain BFGoodrich brakes.
- A 2008 UK fatal accident involved a missing fuel-cut-off lever rivet head and an ambiguous engine restart checklist.
- Single-pilot certified for private use; commercial use needs two pilots trained to work as a crew.

BRAKES AND WHEELS

The CASA AD (AD/CESSNA 500/28, 7/2004) applies to Model 500 and 501 serials 0001 through 0689 with BFGoodrich brake part number 2-1528-6 or 2-1530-4. It requires a stator disc inspection per FAA AD 2004-09-05. It aims to prevent wheel lock-up from cracked discs. Cleveland 30-189 brakes can be upgraded under STC SA1297GL (Model 500). Cleveland SB7018 is mandatory at brake overhaul with the kit; SB7032, a wheel drive key mod, is optional.

ENGINES AND MAINTENANCE

Engines are Pratt & Whitney Canada JT15D / PW500 types; P&WC lists service bulletins and support programs for them. The Cessna 500/501 Maintenance Manual is organised by numbered inspection phases, with servicing tasks for the thrust reverser, tires, gear, oil system and storage. Ask for the full phase inspection history. Check engine records against current P&WC service bulletins.

RECORDS, EQUIPMENT AND FLYING

The accident aircraft had no cockpit voice or flight data recorder. A readout provider lists the Citation 500 among its supported airframes. Annual recorder readouts are required where a recorder is fitted. A JAA Master Minimum Equipment List (CE-500 series, Revision 1, 28 October 2008) governs dispatch with inoperative equipment. Check which version applies to your operation.

SPECIFICATIONS

Seats Min	5
Seats Max	7

PERFORMANCE

Family Max Range Nm	1210
Family Max Cruise Speed Kt	357
Family Max Service Ceiling Ft	41000

SAFETY NOTES

- Brake stator disc cracking can cause wheel lock-up and reduced directional control on landing; confirm AD inspection records.
- The 2008 accident report found a missing rivet head on the left engine fuel-cut-off lever, which could cause inadvertent shutdown. Inspect the levers.
- Two single-pilot-qualified pilots are not a trained crew; train together on the same procedures and follow the correct engine restart procedure.