

MOONEY M20J Model Guide

MOONEY M20J is a single-engine piston airplane with electrically operated retractable tricycle gear. The handbook calls it the Mooney 201. It has a four-cylinder, fuel-injected Lycoming IO-360 engine rated at 200 hp at 2700 rpm and a constant-speed McCauley propeller. Handbook gross weight is 2740 lb, with 64.0 gal usable fuel.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Handbook gross weight is 2740 lb with 64.0 gal usable fuel. Baggage limit is 120 lb, or 340 lb of cargo with the rear seats folded.
- The two handbooks disagree on engine TBO: 1800 hours in the earlier manual, 2000 hours in the later one. Confirm which applies to the serial number.
- Service Bulletin M20-279B covers the landing gear actuator on M20J S/N 24-0001 and on. Check the logbooks for compliance.
- Confirm the floor gear indicator reads DOWN before every landing, as the service bulletin caution requires.

POWERPLANT AND AIRFRAME

The engine is a Lycoming IO-360 with 361 to 381 cu in displacement, depending on the handbook, and an 8.7:1 compression ratio. It has Bendix RSA-5-AD1 fuel injection and needs 100 or 100LL fuel. The McCauley two-blade propeller is 73.0 to 74.0 in. Nose wheel steering is 14 degrees each way.

CABIN, BAGGAGE AND LOADING

The cabin is 43.5 in wide, 44.5 in high and 114 in long. The baggage compartment is 24 in wide and 35 in long and high. Its volume is 17.0 cu ft in the earlier manual and 15.3 cu ft in the later one. Cargo area with the rear seat folded is 33.0 cu ft. The hat rack is limited to 10 lb.

GEAR ACTUATOR SERVICE BULLETIN

A reported actuator failure left the gear inoperative in both normal and emergency modes. SB M20-279B (January 14, 2002) requires a one-time inspection of Eaton or Avionic Products actuators within 100 flight hours. It also replaces the clutch spring, and the 1000-hour recheck restarts from that compliance. Ask for the logbook entry.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine Power Hp	200
Total Fuel Capacity Gal	66.5
Usable Fuel Gal	64
Baggage Capacity Lbs	120
Cabin Width In	43.5
Cabin Height In	44.5
Cabin Length In	114

V-SPEEDS

Vr Kts	59
Vx Kts	66
Vy Kts	86
Max Gear Retraction Kts	107
Max Gear Extension Kts	132

WEIGHT & BALANCE

Max Takeoff Weight Lbs	2740
Baggage Area Max Lbs	120
Hat Rack Max Lbs	10
Cargo Rear Seats Folded Max Lbs	340

SAFETY NOTES

- Gear: verify the floor visual indicator shows DOWN before ALL landings. Missing normal gear indications may mean a landing gear or indicator failure.
- Oxygen: all occupants should use supplemental oxygen above 12,500 ft. Keep the cylinder above 100 PSI. Keep oil and grease away from oxygen equipment.
- The handbook warns that it may not include the latest revisions. Confirm the manual matches the airplane's serial number.