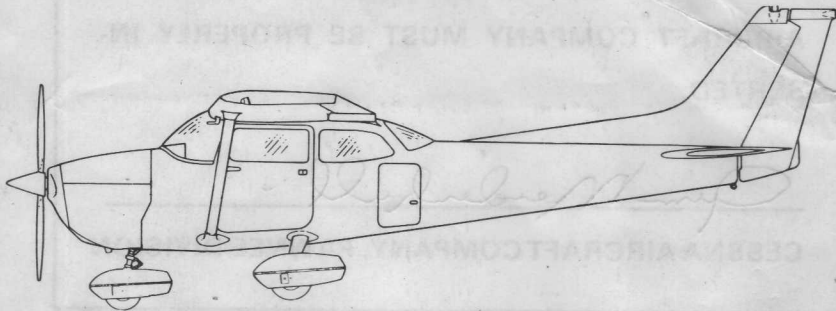


# PILOT'S OPERATING HANDBOOK and FAA APPROVED AIRPLANE FLIGHT MANUAL



CESSNA AIRCRAFT COMPANY

1979 MODEL 172N

THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE  
CARRIED IN THE AIRPLANE  
AT ALL TIMES.

Serial No. 172 72324

Registration No. N4660D

THIS HANDBOOK INCLUDES THE MATERIAL REQUIRED TO BE  
FURNISHED TO THE PILOT BY CAR PART 3 AND CONSTITUTES  
THE FAA APPROVED AIRPLANE FLIGHT MANUAL.

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CESSNA AIRCRAFT COMPANY  
WICHITA, KANSAS, USA

D1138-13PH-RPC-1,100-11/78

1 JULY 1978

THIS MANUAL WAS PROVIDED FOR THE AIRPLANE  
IDENTIFIED ON THE TITLE PAGE ON 9-2-87.  
SUBSEQUENT REVISIONS SUPPLIED BY CESSNA  
AIRCRAFT COMPANY MUST BE PROPERLY IN-  
SERTED.

Jim Mendenhall

CESSNA AIRCRAFT COMPANY, PAWNEE DIVISION

This is a duplicate manual issued to replace one  
originally provided for the airplane identified on the  
cover page on 2-24-79. All revisions, if  
any, have been incorporated as of 9-2-87

Subsequent revisions supplied by Cessna Aircraft  
Company must be properly inserted.

Jim Mendenhall

Cessna Aircraft Co. Pawnee Div.

CESSNA  
MODEL 172N

CONGRATULATIONS

# CONGRATULATIONS . . . .

Welcome to the ranks of Cessna owners! Your Cessna has been designed and constructed to give you the most in performance, economy, and comfort. It is our desire that you will find flying it, either for business or pleasure, a pleasant and profitable experience.

This Pilot's Operating Handbook has been prepared as a guide to help you get the most pleasure and utility from your airplane. It contains information about your Cessna's equipment, operating procedures, and performance; and suggestions for its servicing and care. We urge you to read it from cover to cover, and to refer to it frequently.

Our interest in your flying pleasure has not ceased with your purchase of a Cessna. World-wide, the Cessna Dealer Organization backed by the Cessna Customer Services Department stands ready to serve you. The following services are offered by most Cessna Dealers:

- THE CESSNA WARRANTY, which provides coverage for parts and labor, is available at Cessna Dealers worldwide. Specific benefits and provisions of warranty, plus other important benefits for you, are contained in your Customer Care Program book, supplied with your airplane. Warranty service is available to you at authorized Cessna Dealers throughout the world upon presentation of your Customer Care Card which establishes your eligibility under the warranty.
- FACTORY TRAINED PERSONNEL to provide you with courteous expert service.
- FACTORY APPROVED SERVICE EQUIPMENT to provide you efficient and accurate workmanship.
- A STOCK OF GENUINE CESSNA SERVICE PARTS on hand when you need them.
- THE LATEST AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION FOR SERVICING CESSNA AIRPLANES, since Cessna Dealers have all of the Service Manuals and Parts Catalogs, kept current by Service Letters and Service News Letters, published by Cessna Aircraft Company.

We urge all Cessna owners to use the Cessna Dealer Organization to the fullest.

A current Cessna Dealer Directory accompanies your new airplane. The Directory is revised frequently, and a current copy can be obtained from your Cessna Dealer. Make your Directory one of your cross-country flight planning aids; a warm welcome awaits you at every Cessna Dealer.

1 July 1978

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## PERFORMANCE - SPECIFICATIONS

**SPEED:**

Maximum at Sea Level . . . . . 125 KNOTS  
Cruise, 75% Power at 8000 Ft . . . . . 122 KNOTS

**CRUISE:** Recommended lean mixture with fuel allowance for engine start, taxi, takeoff, climb and 45 minutes reserve at 45% power.

75% Power at 8000 Ft . . . . .	Range	485 NM
40 Gallons Usable Fuel . . . . .	Time	4.1 HRS
75% Power at 8000 Ft . . . . .	Range	630 NM
50 Gallons Usable Fuel . . . . .	Time	5.3 HRS
Maximum Range at 10,000 Ft . . . . .	Range	575 NM
40 Gallons Usable Fuel . . . . .	Time	5.7 HRS
Maximum Range at 10,000 Ft . . . . .	Range	750 NM
50 Gallons Usable Fuel . . . . .	Time	7.4 HRS

**RATE OF CLIMB AT SEA LEVEL** . . . . . 770 FPM  
**SERVICE CEILING** . . . . . 14,200 FT

**TAKEOFF PERFORMANCE:**

Ground Roll . . . . . 805 FT  
Total Distance Over 50-Ft Obstacle . . . . . 1440 FT

**LANDING PERFORMANCE:**

Ground Roll . . . . . 520 FT  
Total Distance Over 50-Ft Obstacle . . . . . 1250 FT

**STALL SPEED (CAS):**

Flaps Up, Power Off . . . . . 50 KNOTS  
Flaps Down, Power Off . . . . . 44 KNOTS

**MAXIMUM WEIGHT:**

Ramp . . . . . 2307 LBS  
Takeoff or Landing . . . . . 2300 LBS

**STANDARD EMPTY WEIGHT:**

Skyhawk . . . . . 1397 LBS  
Skyhawk II . . . . . 1424 LBS

**MAXIMUM USEFUL LOAD:**

Skyhawk . . . . . 910 LBS  
Skyhawk II . . . . . 883 LBS

**BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE** . . . . . 120 LBS

**WING LOADING: Pounds/Sq Ft** . . . . . 13.2

**POWER LOADING: Pounds/HP** . . . . . 14.4

**FUEL CAPACITY: Total**

Standard Tanks . . . . . 43 GAL.  
Long Range Tanks . . . . . 54 GAL.

**OIL CAPACITY** . . . . . 6 QTS

**ENGINE: Avco Lycoming** . . . . . O-320-H2AD  
160 BHP at 2700 RPM

**PROPELLER: Fixed Pitch, Diameter** . . . . . 75 IN.

### COVERAGE

The Pilot's Operating Handbook in the airplane at the time of delivery from Cessna Aircraft Company contains information applicable to the 1979 Model 172N airplane designated by the serial number and registration number shown on the Title Page of this handbook.

### REVISIONS

Changes and/or additions to this handbook will be covered by revisions published by Cessna Aircraft Company. These revisions are distributed to all Cessna Dealers and to owners of U. S. Registered aircraft according to FAA records at the time of revision issuance.

Revisions should be examined immediately upon receipt and incorporated in this handbook.

#### NOTE

**It is the responsibility of the owner to maintain this handbook in a current status when it is being used for operational purposes.**

Owners should contact their Cessna Dealer whenever the revision status of their handbook is in question.

A revision bar will extend the full length of new or revised text and/or illustrations added on new or presently existing pages. This bar will be located adjacent to the applicable revised area on the outer margin of the page.

All revised pages will carry the revision number and date on the applicable page.

The following Log of Effective Pages provides the dates of issue for original and revised pages, and a listing of all pages in the handbook. Pages affected by the current revision are indicated by an asterisk (\*) preceding the pages listed.

### LOG OF EFFECTIVE PAGES

Dates of issue for original and revised pages are:  
Original . . . . . 1 July 1978

Page	Date	Page	Date
Title . . . . .	1 July 1978	6-1 . . . . .	1 July 1978
Assignment Record . . . . .	1 July 1978	6-2 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978
i thru iv . . . . .	1 July 1978	6-3 thru 6-23 . . . . .	1 July 1978
1-1 thru 1-9 . . . . .	1 July 1978	6-24 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978
1-10 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978	7-1 thru 7-38 . . . . .	1 July 1978
2-1 . . . . .	1 July 1978	8-1 . . . . .	1 July 1978
2-2 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978	8-2 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978
2-3 thru 2-12 . . . . .	1 July 1978	8-3 thru 8-14 . . . . .	1 July 1978
3-1 thru 3-9 . . . . .	1 July 1978	9-1 thru 9-2 . . . . .	1 July 1978
3-10 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978		
3-11 thru 3-18 . . . . .	1 July 1978		
4-1 thru 4-24 . . . . .	1 July 1978		
5-1 . . . . .	1 July 1978		
5-2 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978		
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5-22 Blank . . . . .	1 July 1978		

#### NOTE

Refer to Section 9 Table of Contents for supplements applicable to optional systems.

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# SECTION 1 GENERAL

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FIGION 1  
ERAL

CESSNA  
MODEL 172N

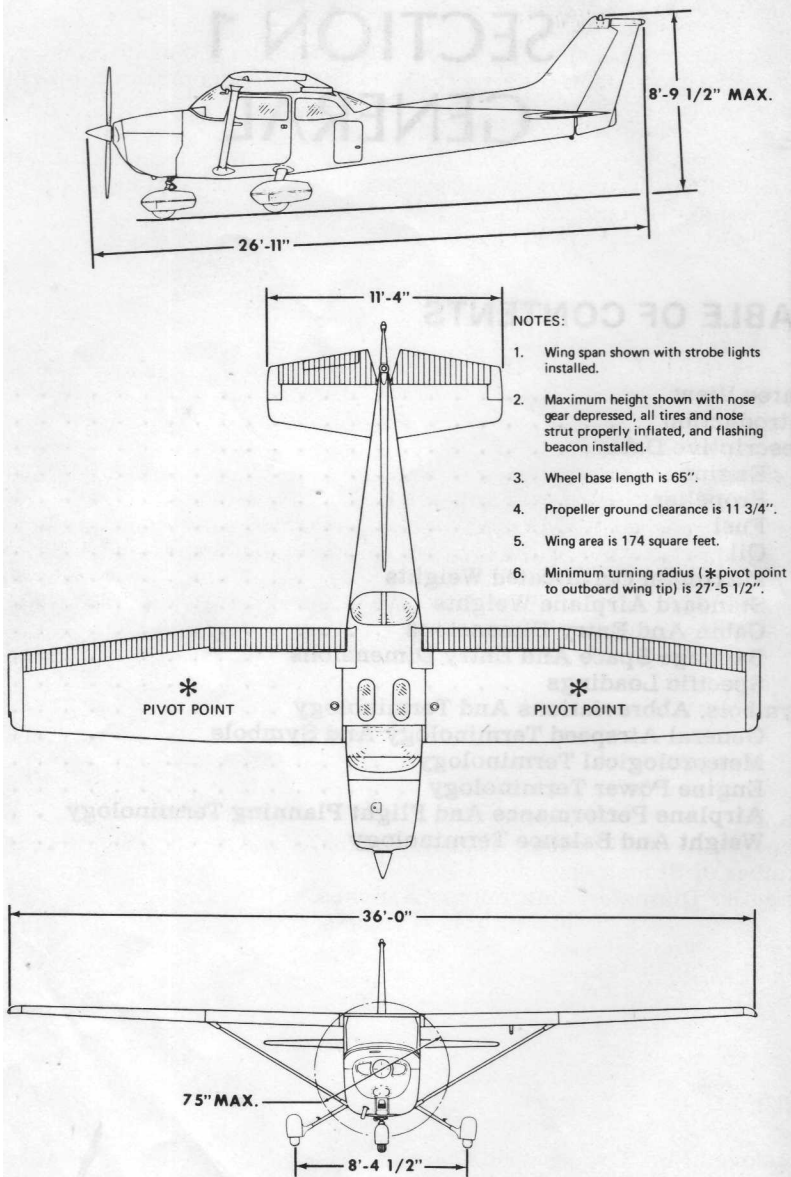


Figure 1-1. Three View

1 Julv 1978



## INTRODUCTION

This handbook contains 9 sections, and includes the material required to be furnished to the pilot by CAR Part 3. It also contains supplemental data supplied by Cessna Aircraft Company.

Section 1 provides basic data and information of general interest. It also contains definitions or explanations of symbols, abbreviations, and terminology commonly used.

## DESCRIPTIVE DATA

### ENGINE

Number of Engines: 1.

Engine Manufacturer: Avco Lycoming.

Engine Model Number: O-320-H2AD.

Engine Type: Normally-aspirated, direct-drive, air-cooled, horizontally-opposed, carburetor equipped, four-cylinder engine with 320 cu. in. displacement.

Horsepower Rating and Engine Speed: 160 rated BHP at 2700 RPM.

### PROPELLER

Propeller Manufacturer: McCauley Accessory Division.

Propeller Model Number: 1C160/DTM7557.

Number of Blades: 2.

Propeller Diameter, Maximum: 75 inches.

Minimum: 74 inches.

Propeller Type: Fixed pitch.

### FUEL

Approved Fuel Grades (and Colors):

100LL Grade Aviation Fuel (Blue).

100 (Formerly 100/130) Grade Aviation Fuel (Green).

Capacity:  
Standard Tanks:

Total Capacity: 43 gallons.  
Total Capacity Each Tank: 21.5 gallons.  
Total Usable: 40 gallons.

Long Range Tanks:

Total Capacity: 54 gallons.  
Total Capacity Each Tank: 27 gallons.  
Total Usable: 50 gallons.

NOTE

To ensure maximum fuel capacity when refueling and minimize cross-feeding when parked on a sloping surface, place the fuel selector valve in either LEFT or RIGHT position.

Grade (Specification):

MIL-L-6082 Aviation Grade Straight Mineral Oil: Use to replenish supply during first 25 hours and at the first 25-hour oil change. Continue to use until a total of 50 hours has accumulated or oil consumption has stabilized.

NOTE

The airplane was delivered from the factory with a corrosion preventive aircraft engine oil. This oil should be drained after the first 25 hours of operation.

MIL-L-22851 Ashless Dispersant Oil: This oil **must be used** after first 50 hours or consumption has stabilized.

Recommended Viscosity for Temperature Range:

MIL-L-6082 Aviation Grade Straight Mineral Oil:

SAE 50 above 16°C (60°F).  
SAE 40 between -1°C (30°F) and 32°C (90°F).  
SAE 30 between -18°C (0°F) and 21°C (70°F).  
SAE 20 below -12°C (10°F).

MIL-L-22851 Ashless Dispersant Oil:

SAE 40 or SAE 50 above 16°C (60°F).  
SAE 40 between -1°C (30°F) and 32°C (90°F).  
SAE 30 or SAE 40 between -18°C (0°F) and 21°C (70°F).  
SAE 30 below -12°C (10°F).

Capacity:

ump: 6 Quarts.

total: 7 Quarts (if oil filter installed).

### MAXIMUM CERTIFICATED WEIGHTS

Ramp, Normal Category: 2307 lbs.

Utility Category: 2007 lbs.

Takeoff, Normal Category: 2300 lbs.

Utility Category: 2000 lbs.

Landing, Normal Category: 2300 lbs.

Utility Category: 2000 lbs.

Weight in Baggage Compartment, Normal Category:

Baggage Area 1 (or passenger on child's seat) - Station 82 to 108: 120 lbs. See note below.

Baggage Area 2 - Station 108 to 142: 50 lbs. See note below.

#### NOTE

The maximum combined weight capacity for baggage areas 1 and 2 is 120 lbs.

Weight in Baggage Compartment, Utility Category: In this category, the baggage compartment and rear seat must not be occupied.

### STANDARD AIRPLANE WEIGHTS

Standard Empty Weight, Skyhawk: 1397 lbs.

Skyhawk II: 1424 lbs.

Maximum Useful Load:

	Normal Category	Utility Category
Skyhawk:	910 lbs.	610 lbs.
Skyhawk II:	883 lbs.	583 lbs.

### CABIN AND ENTRY DIMENSIONS

Detailed dimensions of the cabin interior and entry door openings are illustrated in Section 6.

### BAGGAGE SPACE AND ENTRY DIMENSIONS

Dimensions of the baggage area and baggage door opening are illustrated in detail in Section 6.

### SPECIFIC LOADINGS

Wing Loading: 13.2 lbs./sq. ft.

Power Loading: 14.4 lbs./hp.

## SYMBOLS, ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

### GENERAL AIRSPEED TERMINOLOGY AND SYMBOLS

KCAS	<b>Knots Calibrated Airspeed</b> is indicated airspeed corrected for position and instrument error and expressed in knots. Knots calibrated airspeed is equal to KTAS in standard atmosphere at sea level.
KIAS	<b>Knots Indicated Airspeed</b> is the speed shown on the airspeed indicator and expressed in knots.
KTAS	<b>Knots True Airspeed</b> is the airspeed expressed in knots relative to undisturbed air which is KCAS corrected for altitude and temperature.
$V_A$	<b>Maneuvering Speed</b> is the maximum speed at which you may use abrupt control travel.
$V_{FE}$	<b>Maximum Flap Extended Speed</b> is the highest speed permissible with wing flaps in a prescribed extended position.
$V_{NO}$	<b>Maximum Structural Cruising Speed</b> is the speed that should not be exceeded except in smooth air, then only with caution.
$V_{NE}$	<b>Never Exceed Speed</b> is the speed limit that may not be exceeded at any time.
$V_S$	<b>Stalling Speed or the minimum steady flight speed</b> at which the airplane is controllable.
$V_{S_0}$	<b>Stalling Speed or the minimum steady flight speed</b> at which the airplane is controllable in the landing configuration at the most forward center of gravity.
$V_X$	<b>Best Angle-of-Climb Speed</b> is the speed which results in the greatest gain of altitude in a given horizontal distance.
$V_Y$	<b>Best Rate-of-Climb Speed</b> is the speed which results in the greatest gain in altitude in a given time.

### METEOROLOGICAL TERMINOLOGY

OAT	<b>Outside Air Temperature</b> is the free air static temperature.
-----	--

It is expressed in either degrees Celsius or degrees Fahrenheit.

**Standard Temperature** is 15°C at sea level pressure altitude and decreases by 2°C for each 1000 feet of altitude.

**Pressure Altitude** is the altitude read from an altimeter when the altimeter's barometric scale has been set to 29.92 inches of mercury (1013 mb).

### ENGINE POWER TERMINOLOGY

**BHP** **Brake Horsepower** is the power developed by the engine.

**RPM** **Revolutions Per Minute** is engine speed.

**Static RPM** **Static RPM** is engine speed attained during a full-throttle engine runup when the airplane is on the ground and stationary.

### AIRPLANE PERFORMANCE AND FLIGHT PLANNING TERMINOLOGY

**Demonstrated Crosswind Velocity** **Demonstrated Crosswind Velocity** is the velocity of the crosswind component for which adequate control of the airplane during takeoff and landing was actually demonstrated during certification tests. The value shown is not considered to be limiting.

**Usable Fuel** **Usable Fuel** is the fuel available for flight planning.

**Unusable Fuel** **Unusable Fuel** is the quantity of fuel that can not be safely used in flight.

**GPH** **Gallons Per Hour** is the amount of fuel (in gallons) consumed per hour.

**NMPG** **Nautical Miles Per Gallon** is the distance (in nautical miles) which can be expected per gallon of fuel consumed at a specific engine power setting and/or flight configuration.

**g** **g** is acceleration due to gravity.

## WEIGHT AND BALANCE TERMINOLOGY

Reference Datum	<b>Reference Datum</b> is an imaginary vertical plane from which all horizontal distances are measured for balance purposes.
Station	<b>Station</b> is a location along the airplane fuselage given in terms of the distance from the reference datum.
Arm	<b>Arm</b> is the horizontal distance from the reference datum to the center of gravity (C.G.) of an item.
Moment	<b>Moment</b> is the product of the weight of an item multiplied by its arm. (Moment divided by the constant 1000 is used in this handbook to simplify balance calculations by reducing the number of digits.)
Center of Gravity (C.G.)	<b>Center of Gravity</b> is the point at which an airplane, or equipment, would balance if suspended. Its distance from the reference datum is found by dividing the total moment by the total weight of the airplane.
C.G. Arm	<b>Center of Gravity Arm</b> is the arm obtained by adding the airplane's individual moments and dividing the sum by the total weight.
C.G. Limits	<b>Center of Gravity Limits</b> are the extreme center of gravity locations within which the airplane must be operated at a given weight.
Standard Empty Weight	<b>Standard Empty Weight</b> is the weight of a standard airplane, including unusable fuel, full operating fluids and full engine oil.
Basic Empty Weight	<b>Basic Empty Weight</b> is the standard empty weight plus the weight of optional equipment.
Useful Load	<b>Useful Load</b> is the difference between ramp weight and the basic empty weight.
Maximum Ramp Weight	<b>Maximum Ramp Weight</b> is the maximum weight approved for ground maneuver. (It includes the weight of start, taxi, and runup fuel.)
Maximum Takeoff Weight	<b>Maximum Takeoff Weight</b> is the maximum weight approved for the start of the takeoff run.

Maximum  
Landing  
Weight

**Maximum Landing Weight** is the maximum weight approved for the landing touchdown.

Tare

**Tare** is the weight of chocks, blocks, stands, etc. used when weighing an airplane, and is included in the scale readings. Tare is deducted from the scale reading to obtain the actual (net) airplane weight.