

PILOT'S OPERATING HANDBOOK

Cessna® 1978

Skyhawk

CESSNA MODEL 172N



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 2300 LBS

STANDARD EMPTY WEIGHT:

Skyhawk	1393 LBS
Skyhawk II	1419 LBS

MAXIMUM USEFUL LOAD:

Skyhawk	907 LBS
Skyhawk II	881 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.

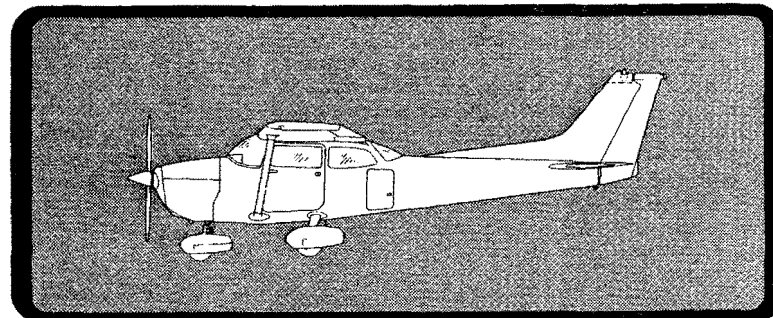
OIL CAPACITY 6 QTS

ENGINE: Avco Lycoming O-320-H2AD

160 BHP at 2700 RPM

PROPELLER: Fixed Pitch, Diameter 75 IN.

PILOT'S OPERATING HANDBOOK



SKYHAWK

1978 MODEL 172N

Serial No. _____

Registration No. _____

THIS HANDBOOK INCLUDES THE MATERIAL REQUIRED TO BE FURNISHED TO THE PILOT BY CAR PART 3

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CESSNA AIRCRAFT COMPANY

WICHITA, KANSAS, USA

5. Near flap indicator:

AVOID SLIPS WITH FLAPS EXTENDED

6. In baggage compartment:

120 POUNDS MAXIMUM
BAGGAGE AND/OR AUXILIARY PASSENGER
FORWARD OF BAGGAGE DOOR LATCH

50 POUNDS MAXIMUM
BAGGAGE AFT OF BAGGAGE DOOR LATCH

MAXIMUM 120 POUNDS COMBINED
FOR ADDITIONAL LOADING INSTRUCTIONS
SEE WEIGHT AND BALANCE DATA

SECTION 3 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	3-3
Airspeeds For Emergency Operation	3-3

OPERATIONAL CHECKLISTS

Engine Failures	3-3
Engine Failure During Takeoff Run	3-3
Engine Failure Immediately After Takeoff	3-4
Engine Failure During Flight	3-4
Forced Landings	3-4
Emergency Landing Without Engine Power	3-4
Precautionary Landing With Engine Power	3-4
Ditching	3-5
Fires	3-5
During Start On Ground	3-5
Engine Fire In Flight	3-6
Electrical Fire In Flight	3-6
Cabin Fire	3-6
Wing Fire	3-7
Icing	3-7
Inadvertent Icing Encounter	3-7
Static Source Blockage (Erroneous Instrument Reading Suspected)	3-8
Landing With A Flat Main Tire	3-8
Electrical Power Supply System Malfunctions	3-8
Over-Voltage Light Illuminates	3-8
Ammeter Shows Discharge	3-9

AMPLIFIED PROCEDURES

Engine Failure	3-11
Forced Landings	3-12
Landing Without Elevator Control	3-12
Fires	3-12

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

Emergency Operation In Clouds (Vacuum System Failure)	3-1
Executing A 180° Turn In Clouds	3-1
Emergency Descent Through Clouds	3-1
Recovery From A Spiral Dive	3-1
Flight In Icing Conditions	3-1
Static Source Blocked	3-1
Spins	3-1
Rough Engine Operation Or Loss Of Power	3-1
Carburetor Icing	3-1
Spark Plug Fouling	3-1
Magnetos Malfunction	3-1
Low Oil Pressure	3-1
Electrical Power Supply System Malfunctions	3-1
Excessive Rate Of Charge	3-1
Insufficient Rate Of Charge	3-1

INTRODUCTION

Pag

Section 3 provides checklist and amplified procedures for coping with emergencies that may occur. Emergencies caused by airplane or engine malfunctions are extremely rare if proper preflight inspections and maintenance are practiced. Enroute weather emergencies can be minimized or eliminated by careful flight planning and good judgment when unexpected weather is encountered. However, should an emergency arise, the basic guidelines described in this section should be considered and applied as necessary to correct the problem. Emergency procedures associated with ELT and other optional systems can be found in Section 9.

AIRSPEEDS FOR EMERGENCY OPERATION

Engine Failure After Takeoff:	
Wing Flaps Up	65 KIAS
Wing Flaps Down	60 KIAS
Maneuvering Speed:	
2300 Lbs	97 KIAS
1950 Lbs	89 KIAS
1600 Lbs	80 KIAS
Maximum Glide:	
2300 Lbs	65 KIAS
Precautionary Landing With Engine Power	60 KIAS
Landing Without Engine Power:	
Wing Flaps Up	65 KIAS
Wing Flaps Down	60 KIAS

OPERATIONAL CHECKLISTS

ENGINE FAILURES

ENGINE FAILURE DURING TAKEOFF RUN

1. Throttle -- IDLE.
2. Brakes -- APPLY.
3. Wing Flaps -- RETRACT.
4. Mixture -- IDLE CUT-OFF.
5. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
6. Master Switch -- OFF.

ENGINE FAILURE IMMEDIATELY AFTER TAKEOFF

1. Airspeed -- 65 KIAS (flaps UP).
60 KIAS (flaps DOWN).
2. Mixture -- IDLE CUT-OFF.
3. Fuel Selector Valve -- OFF.
4. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
5. Wing Flaps -- AS REQUIRED.
6. Master Switch -- OFF.

ENGINE FAILURE DURING FLIGHT

1. Airspeed -- 65 KIAS.
2. Carburetor Heat -- ON.
3. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
4. Mixture -- RICH.
5. Ignition Switch -- BOTH (or START if propeller is stopped).
6. Primer -- IN and LOCKED.

FORCED LANDINGS

EMERGENCY LANDING WITHOUT ENGINE POWER

1. Airspeed -- 65 KIAS (flaps UP).
60 KIAS (flaps DOWN).
2. Mixture -- IDLE CUT-OFF.
3. Fuel Selector Valve -- OFF.
4. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
5. Wing Flaps -- AS REQUIRED (40° recommended).
6. Master Switch -- OFF.
7. Doors -- UNLATCH PRIOR TO TOUCHDOWN.
8. Touchdown -- SLIGHTLY TAIL LOW.
9. Brakes -- APPLY HEAVILY.

PRECAUTIONARY LANDING WITH ENGINE POWER

1. Wing Flaps -- 20°.
2. Airspeed -- 60 KIAS.
3. Selected Field -- FLY OVER, noting terrain and obstructions, then retract flaps upon reaching a safe altitude and airspeed.
4. Avionics Power Switch and Electrical Switches -- OFF.
5. Wing Flaps -- 40° (on final approach).
6. Airspeed -- 60 KIAS.
7. Master Switch -- OFF.
8. Doors -- UNLATCH PRIOR TO TOUCHDOWN.

9. Touchdown -- SLIGHTLY TAIL LOW.
10. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
11. Brakes -- APPLY HEAVILY.

DITCHING

1. Radio -- TRANSMIT MAYDAY on 121.5 MHz, giving location and intentions.
2. Heavy Objects (in baggage area) -- SECURE OR JETTISON.
3. Approach -- High Winds, Heavy Seas -- INTO THE WIND.
Light Winds, Heavy Swells -- PARALLEL TO SWELLS.
4. Wing Flaps -- 20° - 40°.
5. Power -- ESTABLISH 300 FT/MIN DESCENT AT 55 KIAS.

NOTE

If no power is available, approach at 65 KIAS with flaps up or at 60 KIAS with 10° flaps.

6. Cabin Doors -- UNLATCH.
7. Touchdown -- LEVEL ATTITUDE AT ESTABLISHED RATE OF DESCENT.
8. Face -- CUSHION at touchdown with folded coat.
9. Airplane -- EVACUATE through cabin doors. If necessary, open window and flood cabin to equalize pressure so doors can be opened.
10. Life Vests and Raft -- INFLATE.

FIRES

DURING START ON GROUND

1. Cranking -- CONTINUE, to get a start which would suck the flames and accumulated fuel through the carburetor and into the engine.

If engine starts:

2. Power -- 1700 RPM for a few minutes.
3. Engine -- SHUT DOWN and inspect for damage.

If engine fails to start:

4. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
5. Mixture -- IDLE CUT-OFF.

6. Cranking -- CONTINUE.
7. Fire Extinguisher -- OBTAIN (have ground attendants obtain if not installed).
8. Engine -- SECURE.
 - a. Master Switch -- OFF.
 - b. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
 - c. Fuel Selector Valve -- OFF.
9. Fire -- EXTINGUISH using fire extinguisher, wool blanket, or dirt.
10. Fire Damage -- INSPECT, repair damage or replace damaged components or wiring before conducting another flight.

ENGINE FIRE IN FLIGHT

1. Mixture -- IDLE CUT-OFF.
2. Fuel Selector Valve -- OFF.
3. Master Switch -- OFF.
4. Cabin Heat and Air -- OFF (except overhead vents).
5. Airspeed -- 100 KIAS (If fire is not extinguished, increase glide speed to find an airspeed which will provide an incombustible mixture).
6. Forced Landing -- EXECUTE (as described in Emergency Landing Without Engine Power).

ELECTRICAL FIRE IN FLIGHT

1. Master Switch -- OFF.
2. Avionics Power Switch -- OFF.
3. All Other Switches (except ignition switch) -- OFF.
4. Vents/Cabin Air/Heat -- CLOSED.
5. Fire Extinguisher -- ACTIVATE (if available).

WARNING

After discharging an extinguisher within a closed cabin, ventilate the cabin.

If fire appears out and electrical power is necessary for continuance of flight:

6. Master Switch -- ON.
7. Circuit Breakers -- CHECK for faulty circuit, do not reset.
8. Radio Switches -- OFF.
9. Avionics Power Switch -- ON.
10. Radio/Electrical Switches -- ON one at a time, with delay after each until short circuit is localized.

11. Vents/Cabin Air/Heat -- OPEN when it is ascertained that fire is completely extinguished.

CABIN FIRE

1. Master Switch -- OFF.
2. Vents/Cabin Air/Heat -- CLOSED (to avoid drafts).
3. Fire Extinguisher -- ACTIVATE (if available).

WARNING

After discharging an extinguisher within a closed cabin, ventilate the cabin.

4. Land the airplane as soon as possible to inspect for damage.

WING FIRE

1. Navigation Light Switch -- OFF.
2. Pitot Heat Switch (if installed) -- OFF.
3. Strobe Light Switch (if installed) -- OFF.

NOTE

Perform a sideslip to keep the flames away from the fuel tank and cabin, and land as soon as possible using flaps only as required for final approach and touchdown.

ICING

INADVERTENT ICING ENCOUNTER

1. Turn pitot heat switch ON (if installed).
2. Turn back or change altitude to obtain an outside air temperature that is less conducive to icing.
3. Pull cabin heat control full out and open defroster outlet to obtain maximum windshield defroster airflow. Adjust cabin air control to get maximum defroster heat and airflow.
4. Open the throttle to increase engine speed and minimize ice build-up on propeller blades.
5. Watch for signs of carburetor air filter ice and apply carburetor

heat as required. An unexplained loss in engine speed could be caused by carburetor ice or air intake filter ice. Lean the mixture for maximum RPM, if carburetor heat is used continuously.

6. Plan a landing at the nearest airport. With an extremely rapid ice build-up, select a suitable "off airport" landing site.
7. With an ice accumulation of 1/4 inch or more on the wing leading edges, be prepared for significantly higher stall speed.
8. Leave wing flaps retracted. With a severe ice build-up on the horizontal tail, the change in wing wake airflow direction caused by wing flap extension could result in a loss of elevator effectiveness.
9. Open left window and, if practical, scrape ice from a portion of the windshield for visibility in the landing approach.
10. Perform a landing approach using a forward slip, if necessary, for improved visibility.
11. Approach at 65 to 75 KIAS depending upon the amount of the accumulation.
12. Perform a landing in level attitude.

STATIC SOURCE BLOCKAGE (Erroneous Instrument Reading Suspected)

1. Alternate Static Source Valve -- PULL ON.
2. Airspeed -- Consult appropriate calibration tables in Section 5.

LANDING WITH A FLAT MAIN TIRE

1. Approach -- NORMAL.
2. Touchdown -- GOOD TIRE FIRST, hold airplane off flat tire as long as possible.

ELECTRICAL POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM MALFUNCTIONS

OVER-VOLTAGE LIGHT ILLUMINATES

1. Avionics Power Switch -- OFF.
2. Master Switch -- OFF (both sides).
3. Master Switch -- ON.
4. Over-Voltage Light -- OFF.
5. Avionics Power Switch -- ON.

If over-voltage light illuminates again:

6. Flight -- TERMINATE as soon as possible.

AMMETER SHOWS DISCHARGE

1. Alternator -- OFF.
2. Nonessential Radio/Electrical Equipment -- OFF.
3. Flight -- TERMINATE as soon as practical.

AMPLIFIED PROCEDURES

ENGINE FAILURE

If an engine failure occurs during the takeoff run, the most important thing to do is stop the airplane on the remaining runway. Those extra items on the checklist will provide added safety after a failure of this type.

Prompt lowering of the nose to maintain airspeed and establish a glide attitude is the first response to an engine failure after takeoff. In most cases, the landing should be planned straight ahead with only small changes in direction to avoid obstructions. Altitude and airspeed are seldom sufficient to execute a 180° gliding turn necessary to return to the runway. The checklist procedures assume that adequate time exists to secure the fuel and ignition systems prior to touchdown.

After an engine failure in flight, the best glide speed as shown in figure 3-1 should be established as quickly as possible. While gliding toward a suitable landing area, an effort should be made to identify the cause of the failure. If time permits, an engine restart should be attempted as shown in the checklist. If the engine cannot be restarted, a forced landing without power must be completed.

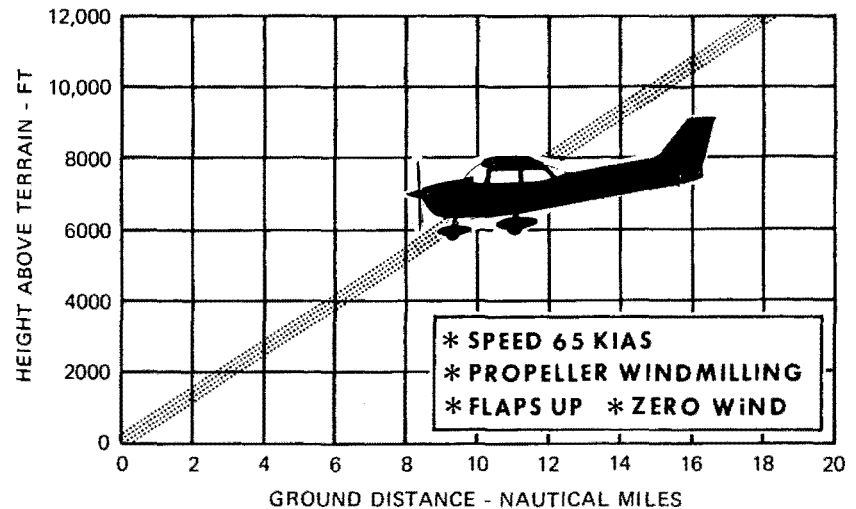


Figure 3-1. Maximum Glide

alternator is not supplying power to the system and should be shut down since the alternator field circuit may be placing an unnecessary load on the system. All nonessential equipment should be turned off and the flight terminated as soon as practical.

SECTION 4 NORMAL PROCEDURES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	4-3
Speeds For Normal Operation	4-3

CHECKLIST PROCEDURES

Preflight Inspection	4-5
Cabin	4-5
Empennage	4-5
Right Wing, Trailing Edge	4-5
Right Wing	4-5
Nose	4-5
Left Wing	4-6
Left Wing, Leading Edge	4-6
Left Wing, Trailing Edge	4-6
Before Starting Engine	4-6
Starting Engine	4-7
Before Takeoff	4-7
Takeoff	4-7
Normal Takeoff	4-7
Short Field Takeoff	4-8
Enroute Climb	4-8
Cruise	4-8
Descent	4-8
Before Landing	4-8
Landing	4-9
Normal Landing	4-9
Short Field Landing	4-9
Balked Landing	4-9
After Landing	4-9
Securing Airplane	4-9

AMPLIFIED PROCEDURES

Starting Engine	4-11
Taxiing	4-11

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
Before Takeoff	4-13
Warm-Up	4-13
Magnetos Check	4-13
Alternator Check	4-13
Takeoff	4-13
Power Check	4-13
Wing Flap Settings	4-14
Short Field Takeoff	4-14
Crosswind Takeoff	4-15
Enroute Climb	4-15
Cruise	4-15
Stalls	4-17
Spins	4-17
Landing	4-19
Normal Landing	4-19
Short Field Landing	4-19
Crosswind Landing	4-20
Balked Landing	4-20
Cold Weather Operation	4-20
Starting	4-20
Flight Operations	4-22
Hot Weather Operation	4-23
Noise Abatement	4-23

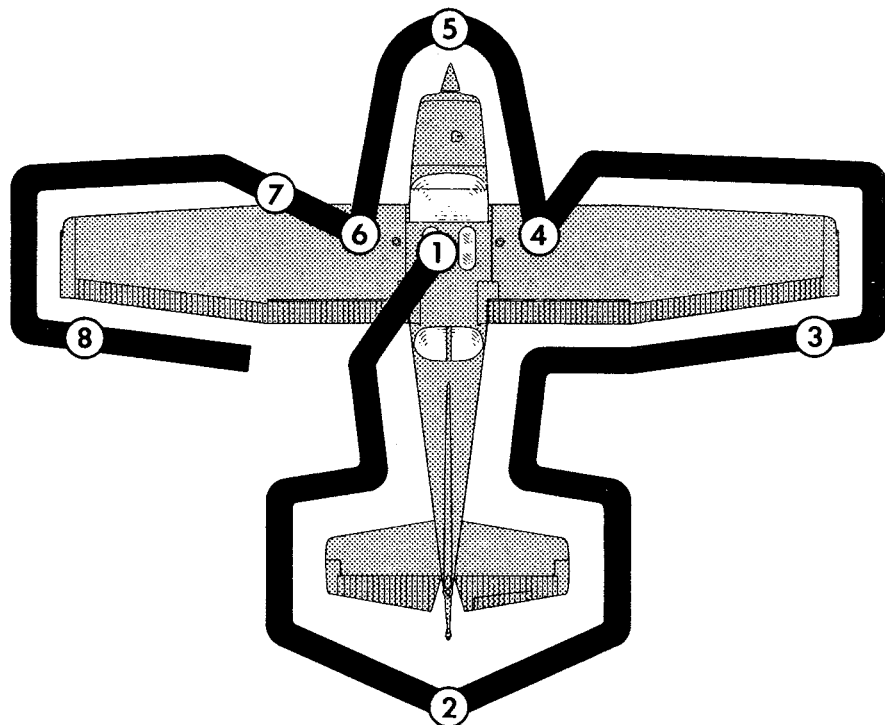
INTRODUCTION

Section 4 provides checklist and amplified procedures for the conduct of normal operation. Normal procedures associated with optional systems can be found in Section 9.

SPEEDS FOR NORMAL OPERATION

Unless otherwise noted, the following speeds are based on a maximum weight of 2300 pounds and may be used for any lesser weight. However, to achieve the performance specified in Section 5 for takeoff distance, the speed appropriate to the particular weight must be used.

Takeoff, Flaps Up:	
Normal Climb Out	70-80 KIAS
Short Field Takeoff, Flaps Up, Speed at 50 Feet	59 KIAS
Enroute Climb, Flaps Up:	
Normal, Sea Level	75-85 KIAS
Normal, 10,000 Feet	70-80 KIAS
Best Rate of Climb, Sea Level	73 KIAS
Best Rate of Climb, 10,000 Feet	68 KIAS
Best Angle of Climb, Sea Level	59 KIAS
Best Angle of Climb, 10,000 Feet	61 KIAS
Landing Approach:	
Normal Approach, Flaps Up	60-70 KIAS
Normal Approach, Flaps 40°	55-65 KIAS
Short Field Approach, Flaps 40°	60 KIAS
Balked Landing:	
Maximum Power, Flaps 20°	55 KIAS
Maximum Recommended Turbulent Air Penetration Speed:	
2300 Lbs	97 KIAS
1950 Lbs	89 KIAS
1600 Lbs	80 KIAS
Maximum Demonstrated Crosswind Velocity:	
Takeoff or Landing	15 KNOTS



NOTE

Visually check airplane for general condition during walk-around inspection. In cold weather, remove even small accumulations of frost, ice or snow from wing, tail and control surfaces. Also, make sure that control surfaces contain no internal accumulations of ice or debris. Prior to flight, check that pitot heater (if installed) is warm to touch within 30 seconds with battery and pitot heat switches on. If a night flight is planned, check operation of all lights, and make sure a flashlight is available.

Figure 4-1. Preflight Inspection

CHECKLIST PROCEDURES

PREFLIGHT INSPECTION

① CABIN

1. Control Wheel Lock -- REMOVE.
2. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
3. Avionics Power Switch -- OFF.
4. Master Switch -- ON.
5. Fuel Quantity Indicators -- CHECK QUANTITY.
6. Master Switch -- OFF.
7. Baggage Door -- CHECK, lock with key if child's seat is to be occupied.

② EMPENNAGE

1. Rudder Gust Lock -- REMOVE.
2. Tail Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.
3. Control Surfaces -- CHECK freedom of movement and security.

③ RIGHT WING Trailing Edge

1. Aileron -- CHECK freedom of movement and security.

④ RIGHT WING

1. Wing Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.
2. Main Wheel Tire -- CHECK for proper inflation.
3. Before first flight of the day and after each refueling, use sampler cup and drain small quantity of fuel from fuel tank sump quick-drain valve to check for water, sediment, and proper fuel grade.
4. Fuel Quantity -- CHECK VISUALLY for desired level.
5. Fuel Filler Cap -- SECURE.

⑤ NOSE

- 1: Engine Oil Level -- CHECK, do not operate with less than four quarts. Fill to six quarts for extended flight.
2. Before first flight of the day and after each refueling, pull out strainer drain knob for about four seconds to clear fuel strainer of possible water and sediment. Check strainer drain closed. If water is observed, the fuel system may contain additional water, and further draining of the system at the strainer, fuel tank sumps, and fuel selector valve drain plug will be necessary.

3. Propeller and Spinner -- CHECK for nicks and security.
4. Landing Light(s) -- CHECK for condition and cleanliness.
5. Carburetor Air Filter -- CHECK for restrictions by dust or other foreign matter.
6. Nose Wheel Strut and Tire -- CHECK for proper inflation.
7. Nose Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.
8. Static Source Opening (left side of fuselage) -- CHECK for stoppage.

⑥ LEFT WING

1. Main Wheel Tire -- CHECK for proper inflation.
2. Before first flight of the day and after each refueling, use sampler cup and drain small quantity of fuel from fuel tank sump quick-drain valve to check for water, sediment and proper fuel grade.
3. Fuel Quantity -- CHECK VISUALLY for desired level.
4. Fuel Filler Cap -- SECURE.

⑦ LEFT WING Leading Edge

1. Pitot Tube Cover -- REMOVE and check opening for stoppage.
2. Fuel Tank Vent Opening -- CHECK for stoppage.
3. Stall Warning Opening -- CHECK for stoppage. To check the system, place a clean handkerchief over the vent opening and apply suction; a sound from the warning horn will confirm system operation.
4. Wing Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.

⑧ LEFT WING Trailing Edge

1. Aileron -- CHECK for freedom of movement and security.

BEFORE STARTING ENGINE

1. Preflight Inspection -- COMPLETE.
2. Seats, Belts, Shoulder Harnesses -- ADJUST and LOCK.
3. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
4. Avionics Power Switch, Autopilot (if installed), Electrical Equipment -- OFF.

CAUTION

The avionics power switch must be OFF during engine start to prevent possible damage to avionics.

5. Brakes -- TEST and SET.
6. Circuit Breakers -- CHECK IN.

STARTING ENGINE

1. Mixture -- RICH.
2. Carburetor Heat -- COLD.
3. Master Switch -- ON.
4. Prime -- AS REQUIRED (2 to 6 strokes; none if engine is warm).
5. Throttle -- OPEN 1/8 INCH.
6. Propeller Area -- CLEAR.
7. Ignition Switch -- START (release when engine starts).
8. Oil Pressure -- CHECK.

BEFORE TAKEOFF

1. Parking Brake -- SET.
2. Cabin Doors and Window(s) -- CLOSED and LOCKED.
3. Flight Controls -- FREE and CORRECT.
4. Flight Instruments -- SET.
5. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
6. Mixture -- RICH (below 3000 feet).
7. Elevator Trim and Rudder Trim (if installed) -- TAKEOFF.
8. Throttle -- 1700 RPM.
 - a. Magnetos -- CHECK (RPM drop should not exceed 125 RPM on either magneto or 50 RPM differential between magnetos).
 - b. Carburetor Heat -- CHECK (for RPM drop).
 - c. Engine Instruments and Ammeter -- CHECK.
 - d. Suction Gage -- CHECK.
9. Avionics Power Switch -- ON.
10. Radios -- SET.
11. Autopilot (if installed) -- OFF.
12. Air Conditioner (if installed) -- OFF.
13. Flashing Beacon, Navigation Lights and/or Strobe Lights -- ON as required.
14. Throttle Friction Lock -- ADJUST.
15. Brakes -- RELEASE.

TAKEOFF

NORMAL TAKEOFF

1. Wing Flaps -- UP.
2. Carburetor Heat -- COLD.
3. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
4. Elevator Control -- LIFT NOSE WHEEL (at 55 KIAS).
5. Climb Speed -- 70-80 KIAS.

SHORT FIELD TAKEOFF

1. Wing Flaps -- UP.
2. Carburetor Heat -- COLD.
3. Brakes -- APPLY.
4. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
5. Mixture -- RICH (above 3000 feet, LEAN to obtain maximum RPM).
6. Brakes -- RELEASE.
7. Elevator Control -- SLIGHTLY TAIL LOW.
8. Climb Speed -- 59 KIAS (until all obstacles are cleared).

ENROUTE CLIMB

1. Airspeed -- 70-85 KIAS.

NOTE

If a maximum performance climb is necessary, use speeds shown in the Rate Of Climb chart in Section 5.

2. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
3. Mixture -- RICH (above 3000 feet, LEAN to obtain maximum RPM).

CRUISE

1. Power -- 2200-2700 RPM (no more than 75% is recommended).
2. Elevator and Rudder Trim (if installed) -- ADJUST.
3. Mixture -- LEAN.

DESCENT

1. Mixture -- ADJUST for smooth operation (full rich for idle power).
2. Power -- AS DESIRED.
3. Carburetor Heat -- AS REQUIRED (to prevent carburetor icing).

BEFORE LANDING

1. Seats, Belts, Harnesses -- SECURE.
2. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
3. Mixture -- RICH.
4. Carburetor Heat -- ON (apply full heat before closing throttle).
5. Autopilot (if installed) -- OFF.
6. Air Conditioner (if installed) -- OFF.

LANDING

NORMAL LANDING

1. Airspeed -- 60-70 KIAS (flaps UP).
2. Wing Flaps -- AS DESIRED (below 85 KIAS).
3. Airspeed -- 55-65 KIAS (flaps DOWN).
4. Touchdown -- MAIN WHEELS FIRST.
5. Landing Roll -- LOWER NOSE WHEEL GENTLY.
6. Braking -- MINIMUM REQUIRED.

SHORT FIELD LANDING

1. Airspeed -- 60-70 KIAS (flaps UP).
2. Wing Flaps -- FULL DOWN (40°).
3. Airspeed -- 60 KIAS (until flare).
4. Power -- REDUCE to idle after clearing obstacle.
5. Touchdown -- MAIN WHEELS FIRST.
6. Brakes -- APPLY HEAVILY.
7. Wing Flaps -- RETRACT.

BALKED LANDING

1. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
2. Carburetor Heat -- COLD.
3. Wing Flaps -- 20° (immediately).
4. Climb Speed -- 55 KIAS.
5. Wing Flaps -- 10° (until obstacles are cleared).
RETRACT (after reaching a safe altitude and 60 KIAS).

AFTER LANDING

1. Wing Flaps -- UP.
2. Carburetor Heat -- COLD.

SECURING AIRPLANE

1. Parking Brake -- SET.
2. Avionics Power Switch, Electrical Equipment, Autopilot (if installed) -- OFF.
3. Mixture -- IDLE CUT-OFF (pulled full out).
4. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
5. Master Switch -- OFF.
6. Control Lock -- INSTALL.