

Cessna 172 Checklist

Preflight—Cabin

AROW, Charts ON BOARD
Control Wheel Lock..... REMOVE
Radios..... CHECK for OFF
Ignition..... KEY OUT, NEARBY
Fuel SelectorCHECK on BOTH
Master Switch ON
Fuel Quantity IndicatorsCHECK
Flaps EXTEND PARTIALLY

Night Operations:

Master Switch ON
Nav. and Landing Lights.....CHECK
Panel and Cabin LightsCHECK
Flashlight AVAILABLE

Master Switch OFF

Preflight—Walk Around

Left Side Fuselage:

Step Stool REMOVE FOR USE
General ConditionCHECK
Underbelly AntennaeCHECK

Empennage:

Tie Down..... REMOVE
Horiz. Stabilizer Condition....CHECK
Vert. Stabilizer Condition.....CHECK
Control SurfacesCHECK
CONDITION and FREEDOM
Antennae.....CHECK
Nav. Light and BeaconCHECK

Right Side Fuselage:

General ConditionCHECK
Underbelly AntennaeCHECK

Right Wing:

Right Flap.....CHECK
Right Tank Fuel SAMPLE
Right Aileron (& Cntrwt)CHECK
Wing-Tip, Nav LightCHECK
Right Wing Underside.....CHECK
Rgt Wing Leading Edge.....CHECK
Tie Down/ChocksREMOVE
Tire..... CHECK WEAR, INFLATION
Right BrakeCHECK
Right Fuel TankCHECK LEVEL
Tank CapSECURE

Nose Section:

Windshield CLEAN
Oil (6 qts Min.).....CHECK LEVEL
Fuel Line DRAIN SAMPLE
Engine Area..... CHECK LEAKS
Exhaust PipeSECURE
CowlingSECURE
SpinnerCHECK and SECURE
Propeller CHECK for NICKS
Propeller Area CLEAR
Landing/Taxi Lights.....CHECK
Air Inlet CLEAR
Nose Gear Strut ... INFLATED (3-4")
Tire..... CHECK WEAR, INFLATION
Chocks (If present)REMOVE
Static Vent..... HOLE CLEAR

Left Wing:

Left Fuel Tank.....CHECK LEVEL
Pitot Tube..... CLEAR
Fuel Tank Vent..... OPEN

Cessna 172 Checklist (cont.)

Preflight—Walk Around (cont.)

Stall Warning Opening CLEAR
Tie Down/ChocksREMOVE
Left Wing Leading EdgeCHECK
Left Wing UndersideCHECK
Wing-Tip, Nav LightCHECK
Left Aileron (& Cntrwt).....CHECK
Left Flap.....CHECK
Left Tank Fuel SAMPLE
Tire..... CHECK WEAR, INFLATION
Left Brake.....CHECK
Step stool.....STOW
Baggage Door LOCK

Winter Operations:

Surfaces.....Free of Ice, Frost, Snow

Before Starting Engine

Preflight Inspection.....COMPLETE
Passenger Briefing.....COMPLETE
Seats/Belts/HarnessesSECURE
Cockpit.....ORGANIZE
Circuit Breakers..... IN
Carb. Heat.....COLD
Radios and Electrical Switches ... OFF
Beacon Switch ON
Mixture.....RICH
PrimerCHECK IN / LOCKED
Ignition..... KEY in SWITCH—OFF

Starting Engine (Cold)

Window.....OPEN
Propeller Area“CLEAR PROP”
BrakesSET
Master Switch ON

Fully pump ThrottleTHREE TIMES
Throttle CRACKED OPEN
Starter Switch ENGAGE
Fully Pump Throttle..... AS NEEDED
After Start SET TO 1000 RPM
Oil Pressure CHECK

Before Taxiing

Mixture..... PULL 1” LEAN
Flaps UP
Coms and Navs.....SET
Transponder SET and STBY
ATIS RECEIVE
AltimeterSET
Attitude IndicatorCHECK and SET
Hdg. Indicator.SET TO COMPASS
Vert. Speed Ind.CHECK ZERO
Taxi Area CLEAR

Tower Controlled Field:

Taxi Clearance RECEIVE

Taxiing

Throttle APPLY SLOWLY
BrakesCHECK
SteeringCHECK

Engine Run Up

BrakesSET
Seats/Belts/HarnessesSECURE
Flight Controls.... FREE and CORRECT
Flight Instruments.....CHECK and SET
Fuel Quantities RECHECK
Trim..... SET for TAKEOFF
Fuel Selector RECHECK ON BOTH
Throttle 1,700 RPM

Cessna 172 Checklist (cont.)

Engine Run Up (cont.)

Mixture.....LEAN to PEAK, 1/2" RICH
Magnetos.....CHECK
(Max. Drop – 125, Max. Diff. – 50)
Suction..... CHECK 4.6 to 5.4"
Ammeter.....CHECK
Oil Temperature.....CHECK
Oil Pressure.....CHECK
Carb. Heat.....HOT, CHECK DROP
Throttle.....FULLY BACK (IDLE)*
*Engine should not stall with C.H. HOT
Carb. Heat.....IN (COLD)
Throttle..... 1000 RPM
Radios, Trans. Code..CHECK and SET

Before Takeoff

Landing Light..... ON
Transponder.....SET ON "ALT"
Doors and Windows..... CLOSE

Tower Controlled Field:

Takeoff Clearance.....RECEIVE

Uncontrolled Field:

Intentions..... ANNOUNCE
Traffic Pattern.....CHECK

Normal Takeoff

Flaps..... 0°
Takeoff Area..... CLEAR
Airplane..... ON CENTERLINE
Brakes..... OFF
Throttle.....FULL OPEN

On Takeoff Roll:

Oil Pressure..... CHECK GREEN
Airspeed..... ALIVE

Accelerate to V_R 52 KIAS

Liftoff:

Control Wheel..... BACK PRESSURE
Climb Airspeed..... 70 KIAS

Short-Field Takeoff

Flaps..... 0°
Trim.....SET
Carb. Heat.....CHECK COLD
Takeoff Area..... CLEAR
Airplane..... ON CENTERLINE*
*Use maximum available runway

Brakes..... APPLY
Throttle.....FULL OPEN
Brakes..... RELEASE

On Takeoff Roll:

Oil Pressure..... CHECK GREEN
Airspeed..... ALIVE
Accelerate to V_R 52 KIAS

Liftoff:

Control Wheel..... BACK PRESSURE
Climb Attitude.....ESTABLISH
Airspeed to V_x 57 KIAS

Beyond Obstacle:

Airspeed to V_y 70 KIAS
Airspeed (Enroute).... 75 to 85 KIAS
Mixture.....LEAN OUT with ASCENT

Soft-Field Takeoff

Flaps..... 10°
Trim.....SET
Control Wheel.....FULL BACK
Brakes..... NONE THROUGHOUT
Takeoff Area..... CLEAR

Cessna 172 Checklist (cont.)

Airplane..... ROLLING—
LINE UP ON CENTERLINE

Throttle..... FULL OPEN SMOOTHLY

Soft-Field Takeoff Roll:

Oil Pressure..... CHECK GREEN
Airspeed..... ALIVE
Control Wheel..... REDUCE BACK
PRESSURE SLIGHTLY

Soft-Field Liftoff:

Control Wheel..... GENTLY REDUCE
BACK PRESSURE AFTER MAINS
LEAVE RUNWAY

Straight and Level.....ESTABLISH
Airspeed 52 KIAS

Soft-Field Climb Out:

Positive Climb.....Establish
Airspeed to V_y 70 KIAS
Flaps.....RETRACT
Airspeed (Enroute).... 75 to 85 KIAS
Mixture..... ADJUST with ASCENT

Cruise Setup

Power..... 2300 to 2500 RPM
Mixture.....LEAN to PEAK RPM
Trim.....ADJUST
Engine Gages.....MONITOR

Descent

Power..... as NEEDED
Carb. Heat..... FULL HEAT as NEEDED
Mixture..... RICHEN with DESCENT

Before Landing

Airspeed (Downwind) 80 KIAS
GUMPSS.....CHECK ON DOWNWIND
Mixture.....SET
Belts/Harnesses..... ON AND TIGHT
Switches.....SET
Flaps..... AS NEEDED (≤ 87 KIAS)
Carb Heat..... ON BELOW 1900 RPM
Trim.....SET

Normal Landing

Airspeed (Final)..... 61 KIAS
Trim.....SET

NOTE: For crosswinds more than 12 kts, use partial or no flaps and 65 KIAS.

Airplane.....CENTER OVER R/W
Controls.....KEEP NOSE WHEEL OFF
Throttle.....RETARD
Touch Down..... ON MAINS
Brakes..... AS NEEDED

Short Field Landing

Set Up..... PER NORMAL LANDING
Flaps..... FULL (40°)
Airspeed (Final)..... V_{APP} (58 KIAS)
Throttle..... IDLE after OBSTACLE
Touch Down..... ON MAINS
Brakes.....APPLY HEAVILY
Flaps.....RETRACT

Cessna 172 Checklist (cont.)

Soft-Field Landing

Set Up PER NORMAL LANDING
Airspeed V_{APP} (61 KIAS)
Throttle POWER IN UNTIL FLARE
Throttle RETARD
Flaps LEAVE EXTENDED
Controls KEEP NOSE OFF
Touch Down ON MAINS
Brakes NONE
Controls FULL BACK PRESSURE

Crosswind Landing

Set Up PER NORMAL LANDING
Flaps AS NEEDED: SUGGEST 20°
Airspeed (Final) V_{APP} (65 KIAS)
Course ... MAINTAIN using SIDE SLIP
Alignment....MAINTAIN with RUDDER
Touch Down ON UPWIND MAIN
..... and NEUTRALIZE RUDDER
Brakes AS NEEDED
Aileron RAISE UPWIND
Flaps RETRACT

Go Around

Throttle FULL FORWARD
Flaps RETRACT TO 20°
Carb. Heat COLD

Control Wheel CLIMB ATTITUDE
Course SHIFT to RIGHT of R/W*
*Unless not advisable

Airspeed V_x (52 KIAS)
Flaps RETRACT

After Landing

Airplane..... OFF RUNWAY
Radio SET
Transponder STANDBY
Flaps UP
Carb. Heat COLD
Landing Light OFF
Taxi Clearance RECEIVE
Taxi PARKING

Securing Airplane

Radios and Avionics..... OFF
Mixture..... IDLE CUT-OFF
Electrical Equipment OFF
Ignition Switch OFF and KEY OUT
Master Switch OFF
Hobbs/Tach Time RECORD
Control Lock INSTALL
Belts and Harnesses.....ARRANGE
Windows/Doors CLOSE/LOCK
Tie Downs SECURE