

SECTION 4 NORMAL PROCEDURES

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
Introduction	4-5
AIRSPEDS	
Airspeeds For Normal Operation	4-5
CHECKLIST PROCEDURES	
Preflight Inspection	4-7
Cabin	4-7
Empennage	4-8
Right Wing, Trailing Edge	4-8
Right Wing	4-8
Nose	4-9
Left Wing	4-10
Left Wing, Leading Edge	4-11
Left Wing, Trailing Edge	4-11
Before Starting Engine	4-11
Starting Engine (With Battery)	4-12
Starting Engine (With External Power)	4-13
Before Takeoff	4-15
Takeoff	4-15
Normal Takeoff	4-15
Short Field Takeoff	4-16
Enroute Climb	4-16
Cruise	4-16
Descent	4-16
Before Landing	4-16
Revision 4	4-1

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
Landing	4-17
Normal Landing	4-17
Short Field Landing	4-17
Balked Landing	4-17
After Landing	4-17
Securing Airplane	4-17
AMPLIFIED PROCEDURES	
Preflight Inspection	4-18
Starting Engine	4-19
Recommended Starter Duty Cycle	4-20
Leaning For Ground Operations	4-21
Taxiing	4-21
Before Takeoff	4-23
Warm Up	4-23
Magneto Check	4-23
Alternator Check	4-23
Landing Lights	4-24
Takeoff	4-24
Power Check	4-24
Wing Flap Settings	4-25
Crosswind Takeoff	4-25
Enroute Climb	4-25
Cruise	4-26
Leaning With an EGT Indicator	4-27
Fuel Savings Procedures for Flight Training Operations ..	4-28
Fuel Vapor Procedures	4-29
Stalls	4-30
Spins	4-30
Closed Throttle Engine Operating (Idling) During Flight	4-32

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
Landing	4-33
Normal Landing	4-33
Short Field Landing	4-33
Crosswind Landing	4-34
Balked Landing	4-34
Cold Weather Operation	4-34
Winterization Kit	4-36
Hot Weather Operation	4-36
Noise Characteristics And Noise Reduction	4-36

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INTRODUCTION

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

AIRSPEEDS

AIRSPEEDS FOR NORMAL OPERATION

Unless otherwise noted, the following speeds are based on a maximum weight of 2550 pounds and may be used for any lesser weight.

Takeoff:

Normal Climb Out 75-85 KIAS
Short Field Takeoff, Flaps 10°, Speed at 50 Feet 56 KIAS

Enroute Climb, Flaps Up:

Normal, Sea Level 75-85 KIAS
Normal, 10,000 Feet 70-80 KIAS
Best Rate-of-Climb, Sea Level 74 KIAS
Best Rate-of-Climb, 10,000 Feet 72 KIAS
Best Angle-of-Climb, Sea Level 62 KIAS
Best Angle-of-Climb, 10,000 Feet 67 KIAS

Landing Approach:

Normal Approach, Flaps Up 65-75 KIAS
Normal Approach, Flaps 30° 60-70 KIAS
Short Field Approach, Flaps 30° 61 KIAS

Balked Landing:

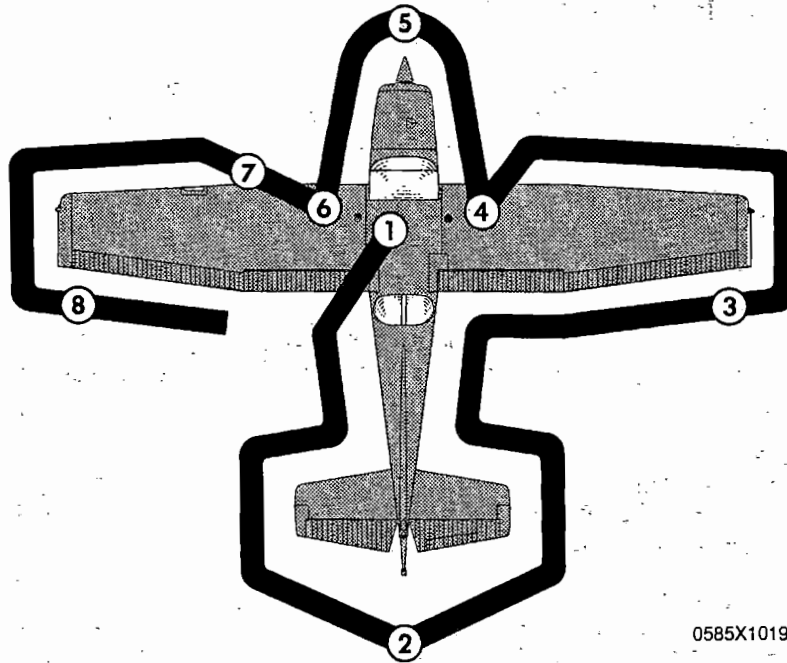
Maximum Power, Flaps 20° 60 KIAS

Maximum Recommended Turbulent Air Penetration Speed:

2550 Lbs 105 KIAS
2200 Lbs 98 KIAS
1900 Lbs 90 KIAS

Maximum Demonstrated Crosswind Velocity:

Takeoff or Landing 15 KNOTS



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NOTE

Visually check airplane for general condition during walk-around inspection. Airplane should be parked in a normal ground attitude (refer to Figure 1-1) to ensure that fuel drain valves allow for accurate sampling. Use of the refueling steps and assist handles will simplify access to the upper wing surfaces for visual checks and refueling operations. 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 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. Pitot Tube Cover -- REMOVE. Check for pitot blockage.
2. Pilot's Operating Handbook -- AVAILABLE IN THE AIRPLANE.
3. Airplane Weight and Balance -- CHECKED.
4. Parking Brake -- SET.
5. Control Wheel Lock -- REMOVE.
6. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
7. Avionics Master Switch -- OFF.

WARNING

WHEN TURNING ON THE MASTER SWITCH, USING AN EXTERNAL POWER SOURCE, OR PULLING THE PROPELLER THROUGH BY HAND, TREAT THE PROPELLER AS IF THE IGNITION SWITCH WERE ON. DO NOT STAND, NOR ALLOW ANYONE ELSE TO STAND, WITHIN THE ARC OF THE PROPELLER, SINCE A LOOSE OR BROKEN WIRE OR A COMPONENT MALFUNCTION COULD CAUSE THE PROPELLER TO ROTATE.

8. Master Switch -- ON.
9. Fuel Quantity Indicators -- CHECK QUANTITY and ENSURE LOW FUEL ANNUNCIATORS (L LOW FUEL R) ARE EXTINGUISHED.
10. Avionics Master Switch -- ON.
11. Avionics Cooling Fan -- CHECK AUDIBLY FOR OPERATION.
12. Avionics Master Switch -- OFF.
13. Static Pressure Alternate Source Valve -- OFF.
14. Annunciator Panel Switch -- PLACE AND HOLD IN TST POSITION and ensure all annunciators illuminate.

15. Annunciator Panel Test Switch -- RELEASE. Check that appropriate annunciators remain on.

NOTE

When Master Switch is turned ON, some annunciators will flash for approximately 10 seconds before illuminating steadily. When panel TST switch is toggled up and held in position, all remaining lights will flash until the switch is released.

16. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
17. Fuel Shutoff Valve -- ON (Push Full In).
18. Flaps -- EXTEND.
19. Pitot Heat -- ON. (Carefully check that pitot tube is warm to touch within 30 seconds.)
20. Pitot Heat -- OFF.
21. Master Switch -- OFF.
22. Elevator Trim -- SET for takeoff.
23. Baggage Door -- CHECK, lock with key.
24. Autopilot Static Source Opening (if installed) -- CHECK for blockage.

② EMPENNAGE

1. Rudder Gust Lock (if installed) -- REMOVE.
2. Tail Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.
3. Control Surfaces -- CHECK freedom of movement and security.
4. Trim Tab -- CHECK security.
5. Antennas -- CHECK for security of attachment and general condition.

③ RIGHT WING Trailing Edge

1. Aileron -- CHECK freedom of movement and security.
2. Flap -- CHECK for security and condition.

④ RIGHT WING

1. Wing Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.

2. Main Wheel Tire -- CHECK for proper inflation and general condition (weather checks, tread depth and wear, etc...).
3. Fuel Tank Sump Quick Drain Valves -- DRAIN at least a cupful of fuel (using sampler cup) from each sump location to check for water, sediment, and proper fuel grade before each flight and after each refueling. If water is observed, take further samples until clear and then gently rock wings and lower tail to the ground to move any additional contaminants to the sampling points. Take repeated samples from **all** fuel drain points until **all** contamination has been removed. If contaminants are still present, refer to WARNING below and do not fly airplane.

⚠ WARNING

IF, AFTER REPEATED SAMPLING, EVIDENCE OF CONTAMINATION STILL EXISTS, THE AIRPLANE SHOULD NOT BE FLOWN. TANKS SHOULD BE DRAINED AND SYSTEM PURGED BY QUALIFIED MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL. ALL EVIDENCE OF CONTAMINATION MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE FURTHER FLIGHT.

4. Fuel Quantity -- CHECK VISUALLY for desired level.
5. Fuel Filler Cap -- SECURE and VENT UNOBSTRUCTED.

⑤ NOSE

1. Fuel Strainer Quick Drain Valve (Located on bottom of fuselage) -- DRAIN at least a cupful of fuel (using sampler cup) from valve to check for water, sediment, and proper fuel grade before each flight and after each refueling. If water is observed, take further samples until clear and then gently rock wings and lower tail to the ground to move any additional contaminants to the sampling points. Take repeated samples from **all** fuel drain points, including the fuel reservoir and fuel selector, until **all** contamination has been removed. If contaminants are still present, refer to WARNING above and do not fly the airplane.

2. Engine Oil Dipstick/Filler Cap -- CHECK oil level, then check dipstick/filler cap SECURE. **Do not operate with less than five quarts.** Fill to eight quarts for extended flight.
3. Engine Cooling Air Inlets -- CLEAR of obstructions.
4. Propeller and Spinner -- CHECK for nicks and security.
5. Air Filter -- CHECK for restrictions by dust or other foreign matter.
6. Nose Wheel Strut and Tire -- CHECK for proper inflation of strut and general condition (weather checks, tread depth and wear, etc...) of tire.
7. Left Static Source Opening -- CHECK for blockage.

⑥ LEFT WING

1. Fuel Quantity -- CHECK VISUALLY for desired level.
2. Fuel Filler Cap -- SECURE and VENT UNOBSTRUCTED.
3. Fuel Tank Sump Quick Drain Valves -- DRAIN at least a cupful of fuel (using sampler cup) from each sump location to check for water, sediment, and proper fuel grade before each flight and after each refueling. If water is observed, take further samples until clear and then gently rock wings and lower tail to the ground to move any additional contaminants to the sampling points. Take repeated samples from **all** fuel drain points until **all** contamination has been removed. If contaminants are still present, refer to WARNING on page 4-9 and do not fly airplane.
4. Main Wheel Tire -- CHECK for proper inflation and general condition (weather checks, tread depth and wear, etc...).

⑦ **LEFT WING Leading Edge**

1. Fuel Tank Vent Opening -- CHECK for blockage.
2. Stall Warning Opening -- CHECK for blockage. 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.
3. Wing Tie-Down -- DISCONNECT.
4. Landing/Taxi Light(s) -- CHECK for condition and cleanliness of cover.

⑧ **LEFT WING Trailing Edge**

1. Aileron-- CHECK for freedom of movement and security.
2. Flap -- CHECK for security and condition.

BEFORE STARTING ENGINE

1. Preflight Inspection -- COMPLETE.
2. Passenger Briefing -- COMPLETE.
3. Seats and Seat Belts -- ADJUST and LOCK. Ensure inertia reel locking.
4. Brakes -- TEST and SET.
5. Circuit Breakers -- CHECK IN.
6. Electrical Equipment -- OFF.

⚠ CAUTION

THE AVIONICS MASTER SWITCH MUST BE OFF DURING ENGINE START TO PREVENT POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO AVIONICS.

7. Avionics Master Switch -- OFF.
8. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
9. Fuel Shutoff Valve -- ON (push full in).
10. Avionics Circuit Breakers -- CHECK IN.

STARTING ENGINE (With Battery)

1. Throttle -- OPEN 1/4 INCH.
2. Mixture -- IDLE CUTOFF.
3. Propeller Area -- CLEAR.
4. Master Switch -- ON.
5. Flashing Beacon -- ON.

NOTE

If engine is warm, omit priming procedure of steps 6, 7 and 8 below.

6. Auxiliary Fuel Pump Switch -- ON.
7. Mixture -- SET to FULL RICH (full forward) until stable fuel flow is indicated (usually 3 to 5 seconds), then set to IDLE CUTOFF (full aft) position.
8. Auxiliary Fuel Pump Switch -- OFF.
9. Ignition Switch -- START (release when engine starts).
10. Mixture -- ADVANCE smoothly to RICH when engine starts.

NOTE

If engine floods (engine has been primed too much), turn off auxiliary fuel pump, place mixture to idle cutoff, open throttle 1/2 to full, and motor (crank) engine. When engine starts, set mixture to full rich and close throttle promptly.

11. Oil Pressure -- CHECK.
12. Navigation Lights -- ON as required.
13. Avionics Master Switch -- ON.
14. Radios -- ON.
15. Flaps -- RETRACT.

Temporary Revision for Cessna Pilot's Operating Handbook and
FAA Approved Airplane Flight Manual

Publication Affected: Model 172R, 172R180, and 172S
Pilot's Operating Handbook and FAA
Approved Airplane Flight Manual.

Serial Numbers Affected: Airplanes not incorporating
SB04-24-01.

Description of Change: New Starting Engine Procedure.

Filing Instructions: Insert this temporary revision in Model
172R, 172R180, and 172S Pilot's
Operating Handbook and FAA
Approved Airplane Flight Manual
adjacent to page 4-12.

Removal Instructions: This temporary revision must be
removed and discarded when
SB04-24-01 has been incorporated.

STARTING ENGINE

1. Throttle -- OPEN 1/4 INCH.
2. Mixture -- IDLE CUTOFF.
3. Propeller Area -- CLEAR.
4. BAT Side Master Switch -- ON.
5. ALT Side Master Switch -- CHECK OFF.
6. Flashing Beacon -- ON.

NOTE

If engine is warm, omit priming procedure of steps 7,
8, and 9 below.

7. Auxiliary Fuel Pump Switch -- ON.
8. Mixture -- SET to FULL RICH (full forward) until stable fuel
flow is indicated (usually 3 to 5 seconds), then set to IDLE
CUTOFF (full aft) position.
9. Auxiliary Fuel Pump Switch -- OFF.
10. Ignition Switch -- START (release when engine starts).
11. Mixture -- ADVANCE smoothly to RICH when engine starts.

(Continued Next Page)

STARTING ENGINE (Continued)

NOTE

If engine floods (engine has been primed too much), verify auxiliary fuel pump off, set mixture to idle cutoff, open throttle 1/2 to full, and motor (crank) engine. When engine starts, set mixture to full rich and close throttle promptly.

12. Oil Pressure -- CHECK.
13. BAT Side Master Switch -- OFF (leave off at least 2 seconds).
14. Both BAT and ALT Sides of Master Switch -- ON.
15. ALT FLD Circuit Breaker -- CHECK IN.
16. Navigation Lights -- ON as required.
17. Avionics Master Switch -- ON.
18. Radios -- ON.
19. Flaps -- RETRACT.

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APPROVED BY
Cessna Aircraft Co
Delegation Option Authorization DOA-221594-CE

Michael D. Mulvey DUA Administrator

DATE OF APPROVAL 02-16-04

STARTING ENGINE (With External Power)

1. Throttle -- OPEN 1/4 INCH.
2. Mixture -- IDLE CUTOFF.
3. Propeller Area -- CLEAR.
4. Master Switch -- OFF.
5. External Power -- CONNECT to airplane receptacle.
6. Master Switch -- ON.
7. Flashing Beacon -- ON.

NOTE

If engine is warm, omit priming procedure of steps 8, 9 and 10 below.

8. Auxiliary Fuel Pump Switch -- ON.
9. Mixture -- SET to FULL RICH (full forward) until stable fuel flow is indicated (usually .3 to .5 seconds), then set to IDLE CUTOFF (full aft) position.
10. Auxiliary Fuel Pump Switch -- OFF.
11. Ignition Switch -- START (release when engine starts).
12. Mixture -- ADVANCE smoothly to RICH when engine starts.

NOTE

If engine floods (engine has been primed too much), turn off auxiliary fuel pump, set mixture in idle cutoff, open throttle 1/2 to full, and motor (crank) engine. When engine starts, set mixture to full rich and close throttle promptly.

13. Oil Pressure -- CHECK.
14. External Power -- DISCONNECT from airplane receptacle. Secure external power door.
15. Electrical System -- CHECK FOR PROPER OPERATION.
 - a. Master Switch -- OFF (disconnects both the battery and alternator from the system).

- b. Taxi and Landing Light Switches -- ON.
(to provide an initial electrical load on the system).
- c. Engine RPM -- REDUCE to idle.
(Minimum alternator output occurs at idle.)
- d. Master Switch -- ON (with taxi and landing lights switched on).
(The ammeter should indicate in the negative direction, showing that the alternator output is below the load requirements, but the battery is supplying current to the system.)
- e. Engine RPM -- INCREASE to approximately 1500 RPM
(as engine RPM increases, alternator output should increase to meet the system load requirements).
- f. Ammeter and Low Voltage Annunciator -- CHECK
(the ammeter should indicate in the positive direction, showing that the alternator is supplying current and the Low Voltage Annunciator (VOLTS) should not be lighted).

NOTE

If the indications, as noted in Step "d" and Step "f", are not observed, the electrical system is not functioning properly. Corrective maintenance must be performed to provide for proper electrical system operation before flight.

- 16. Navigation Lights -- ON as required.
- 17. Avionics Master Switch -- ON.
- 18. Radios -- ON.
- 19. Flaps -- RETRACT.

BEFORE TAKEOFF

1. Parking Brake -- SET.
2. Passenger Seat Backs -- MOST UPRIGHT POSITION.
3. Seats and Seat Belts -- CHECK SECURE.
4. Cabin Doors -- CLOSED and LOCKED.
5. Flight Controls -- FREE and CORRECT.
6. Flight Instruments -- CHECK and SET.
7. Fuel Quantity -- CHECK.
8. Mixture -- RICH.
9. Fuel Selector Valve -- RECHECK BOTH.
10. Throttle -- 1800 RPM.
 - a. Magnetos -- CHECK (RPM drop should not exceed 150 RPM on either magneto or 50 RPM differential between magnetos).
 - b. Vacuum Gage -- CHECK.
 - c. Engine Instruments and Ammeter -- CHECK.
11. Annunciator Panel -- Ensure no annunciators are illuminated.
12. Throttle -- Verify smooth engine operation at idle speed of 575 to 625 rpm
13. Throttle -- 1000 RPM or LESS.
14. Throttle Friction Lock -- ADJUST.
15. Strobe Lights -- AS DESIRED.
16. Radios and Avionics -- SET.
17. NAV/GPS Switch (if installed) -- SET.
18. Autopilot (if installed) -- OFF.
19. Manual Electric Trim (if installed) -- CHECK.
20. Elevator Trim -- SET for takeoff.
21. Wing Flaps -- SET for takeoff (0°-10°).
22. Brakes -- RELEASE.

TAKEOFF

NORMAL TAKEOFF

1. Wing Flaps -- 0°-10°.
2. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
3. Mixture -- RICH (above 3000 feet, LEAN to obtain maximum RPM).
4. Elevator Control -- LIFT NOSE WHEEL (at 55 KIAS).
5. Climb Speed -- 70-80 KIAS.
6. Wing Flaps -- RETRACT.

SHORT FIELD TAKEOFF

1. Wing Flaps -- 10°.
2. Brakes -- APPLY.
3. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
4. Mixture -- RICH (above 3000 feet, LEAN to obtain maximum RPM).
5. Brakes -- RELEASE.
6. Elevator Control -- SLIGHTLY TAIL LOW.
7. Climb Speed -- 56 KIAS (until all obstacles are cleared).
8. Wing Flaps -- RETRACT slowly after reaching 60 KIAS.

ENROUTE CLIMB

1. Airspeed -- 70-85 KIAS.
2. Throttle -- FULL OPEN.
3. Mixture -- RICH (above 3000 feet, LEAN to obtain maximum RPM).

CRUISE

1. Power -- 2100-2700 RPM (No more than 75% is recommended).
2. Elevator Trim -- ADJUST.
3. Mixture -- LEAN.

DESCENT

1. Power -- AS DESIRED.
2. Mixture -- ADJUST for smooth operation (full rich for idle power).
3. Altimeter -- SET.
4. NAV/GPS Switch -- SET.
5. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
6. Wing Flaps -- AS DESIRED (0° - 10° below 110 KIAS, 10° - 30° below 85 KIAS).

BEFORE LANDING

1. Pilot and Passenger Seat Backs -- MOST UPRIGHT POSITION.
2. Seats and Seat Belts -- SECURED and LOCKED.
3. Fuel Selector Valve -- BOTH.
4. Mixture -- RICH.
5. Landing/Taxi Lights -- ON.
6. Autopilot (if installed) -- OFF.

LANDING

NORMAL LANDING

1. Airspeed -- 65-75 KIAS (flaps UP).
2. Wing Flaps -- AS DESIRED (0°-10° below 110 KIAS, 10°-30° below 85 KIAS).
3. Airspeed -- 60-70 KIAS (flaps DOWN).
4. Touchdown -- MAIN WHEELS FIRST.
5. Landing Roll -- LOWER NOSE WHEEL GENTLY.
6. Braking -- MINIMUM REQUIRED.

SHORT FIELD LANDING

1. Airspeed -- 65-75 KIAS (flaps UP).
2. Wing Flaps -- FULL DOWN (30°).
3. Airspeed -- 61 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. Wing Flaps -- RETRACT TO 20°.
3. Climb Speed -- 60 KIAS.
4. Wing Flaps -- 10° (until obstacles are cleared).
RETRACT (after reaching a safe altitude and 65 KIAS).

AFTER LANDING

1. Wing Flaps -- UP.

SECURING AIRPLANE

1. Parking Brake -- SET.
2. Electrical Equipment; Autopilot (if installed) -- OFF.
3. Avionics Master Switch -- OFF.
4. Mixture -- IDLE CUTOFF (pulled full out).
5. Ignition Switch -- OFF.
6. Master Switch -- OFF.
7. Control Lock -- INSTALL.
8. Fuel Selector Valve -- LEFT or RIGHT to prevent cross feeding.

AMPLIFIED PROCEDURES

PREFLIGHT INSPECTION

The Preflight Inspection, described in Figure 4-1 and adjacent checklist, is required prior to each flight. If the airplane has been in extended storage, has had recent major maintenance, or has been operated from marginal airports, a more extensive exterior inspection is recommended.

After major maintenance has been performed, the flight and trim tab controls should be double checked for free and correct movement and security. The security of all inspection plates on the airplane should be checked following periodic inspections. If the airplane has been waxed or polished, check the external static pressure source hole for stoppage.

If the airplane has been exposed to much ground handling in a crowded hangar, it should be checked for dents and scratches on wings, fuselage, and tail surfaces, damage to navigation and anti-collision lights, damage to nose wheel as a result of exceeding tow limits, and avionics antennas.

Outside storage for long periods may result in dust and dirt accumulation on the induction air filter; obstructions in airspeed system lines, water contaminants in fuel tanks and insect/bird/rodent nests in any opening. If any water is detected in the fuel system, the fuel tank sump quick drain valves, fuel reservoir quick drain valve, and fuel strainer quick drain valve should all be thoroughly drained again. Then, the wings should be gently rocked and the tail lowered to the ground to move any further contaminants to the sampling points. Repeated samples should then be taken at **all** quick drain points until **all** contamination has been removed. If, after repeated sampling, evidence of contamination still exists, the fuel tanks should be completely drained and the fuel system cleaned.

Additionally, if the airplane has been stored outside in windy or gusty areas, or tied down adjacent to taxiing airplanes, special attention should be paid to control surface stops, hinges, and brackets to detect the presence of potential wind damage.

If the airplane has been operated from muddy fields or in snow or slush, check the main and nose gear wheel fairings for obstructions and cleanliness. Operation from a gravel or cinder field will require extra attention to propeller tips and abrasion on leading edges of the horizontal tail. Stone damage to the propeller can seriously reduce the fatigue life of the blades.

Airplanes that are operated from rough fields, especially at high altitudes, are subjected to abnormal landing gear abuse. Frequently check all components of the landing gear, shock strut, tires, and brakes. If the shock strut is insufficiently extended, undue landing and taxi loads will be subjected on the airplane structure.

To prevent loss of fuel in flight, make sure the fuel tank filler caps are tightly sealed after any fuel system check or servicing. Fuel system vents should also be inspected for obstructions, ice or water, especially after exposure to cold, wet weather.

STARTING ENGINE

In cooler weather, the engine compartment temperature drops off rapidly following engine shutdown and the injector nozzle lines remain nearly full of fuel.

However, in warmer weather, engine compartment temperatures may increase rapidly following engine shutdown, and fuel in the lines will vaporize and escape into the intake manifold. Hot weather starting procedures depend considerably on how soon the next engine start is attempted. Within the first 20 to 30 minutes after shutdown, the fuel manifold is adequately primed and the empty injector nozzle lines will fill before the engine dies. However, after approximately 30 minutes, the vaporized fuel in the manifold will have nearly dissipated and some slight "priming" could be required to refill the nozzle lines and keep the engine running after the initial start. Starting a hot engine is facilitated by advancing the mixture control promptly to 1/3 open when the engine starts, and then smoothly to full rich as power develops.

Should the engine tend to die after starting, turn on the auxiliary fuel pump temporarily and adjust the throttle and/or mixture as necessary to keep the engine running. In the event of over priming or flooding, turn off the auxiliary fuel pump, open the throttle from 1/2 to full open, and continue cranking with the mixture full lean. When the engine starts, smoothly advance the mixture control to full rich and retard the throttle to desired idle speed.

If the engine is under primed (most likely in cold weather with a cold engine) it will not start at all, and additional priming will be necessary.

After starting, if the oil pressure gage does not begin to show pressure within 30 seconds in the summer time and approximately one minute in very cold weather, stop the engine and investigate. Lack of oil pressure can cause serious engine damage.

NOTE

Additional details concerning cold weather starting and operation may be found under COLD WEATHER OPERATION paragraphs in this section.

RECOMMENDED STARTER DUTY CYCLE

Crank the starter for 10 seconds followed by a 20 second cool down period. This cycle can be repeated two additional times, followed by a ten minute cool down period before resuming cranking. After cool down, crank the starter again, three cycles of 10 seconds followed by 20 seconds of cool down. If the engine still fails to start, an investigation to determine the cause should be initiated.

LEANING FOR GROUND OPERATIONS

1. For all ground operations, after starting the engine and when the engine is running smoothly:
 - a. set the throttle to 1200 RPM.
 - b. lean the mixture for maximum RPM.
 - c. set the throttle to an RPM appropriate for ground operations (800 to 1000 RPM recommended).

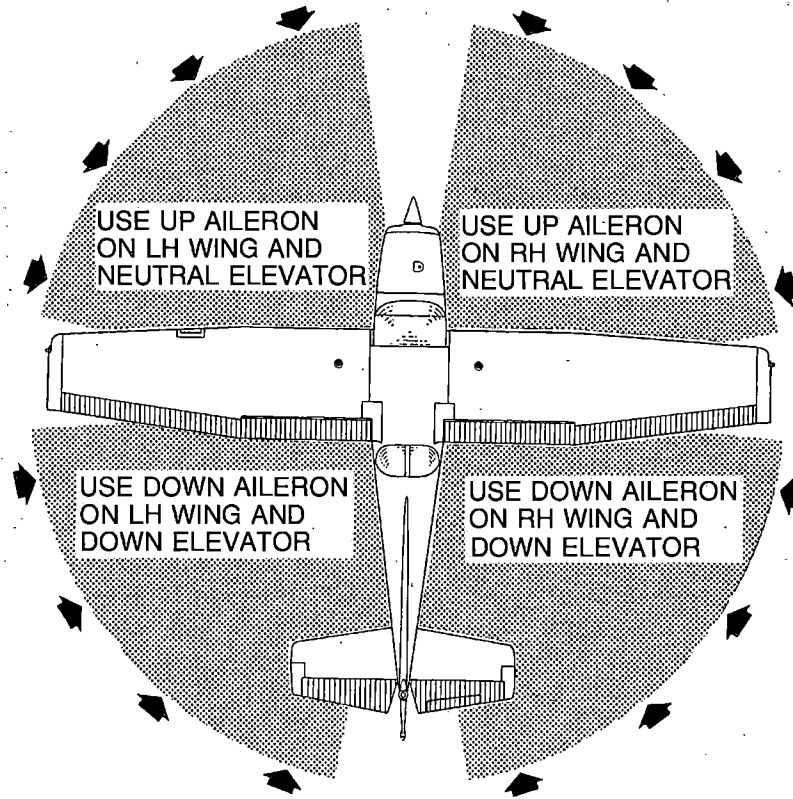
NOTE

If ground operation will be required after the BEFORE TAKEOFF checklist is completed, lean the mixture again (as described above) until ready for the TAKEOFF checklist.

TAXIING

When taxiing, it is important that speed and use of brakes be held to a minimum and that all controls be utilized (Refer to Figure 4-2, Taxiing Diagram) to maintain directional control and balance.

Taxiing over loose gravel or cinders should be done at low engine speed to avoid abrasion and stone damage to the propeller tips.



CODE

WIND DIRECTION ➔

NOTE

Strong quartering tail winds require caution. Avoid sudden bursts of the throttle and sharp braking when the airplane is in this situation. Use the steerable nose wheel and rudder to maintain direction.

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Figure 4-2. Taxiing Diagram

BEFORE TAKEOFF

WARM UP

If the engine idles (approximately 600 RPM) and accelerates smoothly, the airplane is ready for takeoff. Since the engine is closely cowled for efficient in-flight engine cooling, precautions should be taken to avoid overheating during prolonged engine operation on the ground. Also, long periods of idling may cause fouled spark plugs.

MAGNETO CHECK

The magneto check should be made at 1800 RPM as follows. Move ignition switch first to R position and note RPM. Next move switch back to BOTH to clear the other set of plugs. Then move switch to the L position, note RPM and return the switch to the BOTH position. RPM drop should not exceed 150 RPM on either magneto or show greater than 50 RPM differential between magnetos. If there is a doubt concerning operation of the ignition system, RPM checks at higher engine speeds will usually confirm whether a deficiency exists.

An absence of RPM drop may be an indication of faulty grounding of one side of the ignition system or should be cause for suspicion that the magneto timing is set in advance of the setting specified.

ALTERNATOR CHECK

Prior to flights where verification of proper alternator and alternator control unit operation is essential (such as night or instrument flights), a positive verification can be made by loading the electrical system momentarily (3 to 5 seconds) with the landing light or by operating the wing flaps during the engine runup (1800 RPM). The ammeter will remain within a needle width of its initial reading if the alternator and alternator control unit are operating properly.

LANDING LIGHTS

If landing lights are to be used to enhance the visibility of the airplane in the traffic pattern or enroute, it is recommended that only the taxi light be used. This will extend the service life of the landing light appreciably.

TAKEOFF

POWER CHECK

It is important to check full throttle engine operation early in the takeoff roll. Any sign of rough engine operation or sluggish engine acceleration is good cause for discontinuing the takeoff. If this occurs, you are justified in making a thorough full throttle static runup before another takeoff is attempted. The engine should run smoothly and turn approximately 2300 - 2400 RPM with mixture leaned to provide maximum RPM.

Full throttle run ups over loose gravel are especially harmful to propeller tips. When takeoffs must be made over a gravel surface, it is very important that the throttle be advanced slowly. This allows the airplane to start rolling before high RPM is developed, and the gravel will be blown back of the propeller rather than pulled into it. When unavoidable small dents appear in the propeller blades, they should be immediately corrected as described in Section 8 under Propeller Care.

Prior to takeoff from fields above 3000 feet elevation, the mixture should be leaned to give maximum RPM in a full throttle, static runup.

After full throttle is applied, adjust the throttle friction lock clockwise to prevent the throttle from creeping back from a maximum power position. Similar friction lock adjustments should be made as required in other flight conditions to maintain a fixed throttle setting.

WING FLAP SETTINGS

Normal takeoffs are accomplished with wing flaps 0°-10°. Using 10° wing flaps reduces the ground roll and total distance over an obstacle by approximately 10 percent. **Flap deflections greater than 10° are not approved for takeoff.** If 10° wing flaps are used for takeoff, they should be left down until all obstacles are cleared and a safe flap retraction speed of 60 KIAS is reached. On a short field, 10° wing flaps and an obstacle clearance speed of 56 KIAS should be used.

Soft or rough field takeoffs are performed with 10° flaps by lifting the airplane off the ground as soon as practical in a slightly tail low attitude. If no obstacles are ahead, the airplane should be leveled off immediately to accelerate to a higher climb speed. When departing a soft field with an aft C.G. loading, the elevator trim should be adjusted towards the nose down direction to give comfortable control wheel forces during the initial climb.

CROSSWIND TAKEOFF

Takeoffs into strong crosswind conditions normally are performed with the minimum flap setting necessary for the field length, to minimize the drift angle immediately after takeoff. With the ailerons partially deflected into the wind, the airplane is accelerated to a speed slightly higher than normal, then pulled off briskly to prevent possible settling back to the runway while drifting. When clear of the ground, make a coordinated turn into the wind to correct for drift.

ENROUTE CLIMB

Normal enroute climbs are performed with flaps up and **full throttle** and at speeds 5 to 10 knots higher than best rate-of-climb speeds for the best combination of performance, visibility and engine cooling. The mixture should be **full rich** below 3000 feet and may be leaned above 3000 feet for smoother operation or to obtain maximum RPM. For maximum rate of climb, use the best rate-of-climb speeds showing in the Rate of Climb chart in Section 5. If an obstruction dictates the use of a steep climb angle, the best angle-of-climb speed should be used with flaps up and maximum power. Climbs at speeds lower than the best rate-of-climb speed should be of short duration to improve engine cooling.

CRUISE

- Normal cruise is performed between 45% and 75% power. The engine RPM and corresponding fuel consumption for various altitudes can be determined by using the data in Section 5.

NOTE

Cruising should be done at 75% power as much as practicable until a total of 50 hours has accumulated or oil consumption has stabilized. Operation at this higher power will ensure proper seating of the rings and is applicable to new engines, and engines in service following cylinder replacement or top overhaul of one or more cylinders.

- The Cruise Performance charts in Section 5 provide the pilot with detailed information concerning the cruise performance of the Model 172S in still air. Power and altitude, as well as winds aloft, have a strong influence on the time and fuel needed to complete any flight.

The Cruise Performance Table, Figure 4-3, illustrates the true airspeed and nautical miles per gallon during cruise for various altitudes and percent powers, and is based on standard conditions and zero wind. This table should be used as a guide, along with the available winds aloft information, to determine the most favorable altitude and power setting for a given trip. The selection of cruise altitude on the basis of the most favorable wind conditions and the use of low power settings are significant factors that should be considered on every trip to reduce fuel consumption.

In addition to power settings, proper leaning techniques also contribute to greater range and are figured into cruise performance tables. To achieve the recommended lean mixture fuel consumption figures shown in Section 5, the mixture should be leaned using the exhaust gas temperature (EGT) indicator as noted.

NOTE

- At lower power it may be necessary to richen the mixture slightly to obtain smooth operation.

ALTITUDE	75% POWER		65% POWER		55% POWER	
	KTAS	NMPG	KTAS	NMPG	KTAS	NMPG
Sea Level	114	11.2	108	12.0	101	12.8
4000 feet	119	11.7	112	12.4	104	13.2
8000 feet	124	12.2	117	12.9	107	13.6

Figure 4-3. Cruise Performance Table

LEANING WITH AN EGT INDICATOR

At or below 75% power in level cruise flight, the exhaust gas temperature (EGT) indicator is used to lean the fuel-air mixture for best performance or economy. The Cruise Performance charts in Section 5 are based on the EGT to adjust the mixture to Recommended Lean per Figure 4-4.

MIXTURE DESCRIPTION	EXHAUST GAS TEMPERATURE
RECOMMENDED LEAN (Pilot's Operating Handbook)	50° Rich of Peak EGT
BEST ECONOMY	Peak EGT

Figure 4-4. EGT Table

Use the mixture control vernier adjustment (rotate the knob CCW to lean the mixture) to **slowly** lean, from full rich or maximum RPM mixture, while monitoring the EGT indicator. As the EGT indication begins to increase, continue to **slowly** lean the mixture until an EGT indication decrease is just detectable. Reverse the adjustment **slowly** in the rich direction until an EGT indication decrease is again just detectable, then set the EGT index pointer to match the peak indication. The mixture may be leaned slightly to return to peak EGT or may be further richened to Recommended Lean mixture as desired. **Continuous operation at mixture settings lean of peak EGT is prohibited.** Any change in altitude or throttle position will require that peak EGT be redetermined and the desired mixture be reset. Under some conditions, engine roughness may occur at peak EGT. In this case, operate at Recommended Lean mixture.

As noted in Figure 4-4, operation at peak EGT provides the best fuel economy. Operation at peak EGT results in approximately 4% greater range and approximately a 3 knot decrease in airspeed from the figures shown in the Performance section of this handbook. Recommended Lean mixture provides best level cruise performance (generally close to "best power" or maximum RPM).

NOTE

The EGT indicator requires several seconds to respond to mixture adjustments and changes in exhaust gas temperature. More rapid changes in EGT indication are neither necessary nor desirable. Determining peak EGT and setting the desired mixture should take approximately one minute when the adjustments are made sufficiently slowly and accurately.

FUEL SAVINGS PROCEDURES FOR FLIGHT TRAINING OPERATIONS

For best fuel economy during flight training operations, the following procedures are recommended.

1. After engine start and for all ground operations, set the throttle to 1200 RPM and lean the mixture for maximum RPM. Leave the mixture at this setting until beginning the BEFORE TAKEOFF checklist. After the BEFORE TAKEOFF checklist is complete re-lean the mixture as described above until ready for the TAKEOFF checklist.
2. Lean the mixture for maximum RPM during full throttle climbs above 3000 feet. The mixture may remain leaned (maximum RPM at full throttle) for practicing maneuvers such as stalls and slow flight.
3. Lean the mixture for maximum RPM during all operations at any altitude, including those below 3000 feet, when using 75% or less power:

NOTE

- When cruising or maneuvering at 80% or less power, the mixture may be further leaned until the EGT indicator needle peaks and is then enriched 50°F. This is especially applicable to cross-country training flights, but should be practiced during transition flight to and from the practice area as well.
- Using the above recommended procedures can provide fuel savings in excess of 5% when compared to typical training operations at full rich mixture. In addition, the above procedures will minimize spark plug fouling since the reduction in fuel consumption results in a proportional reduction in tetraethyl lead passing through the engine.

FUEL VAPOR PROCEDURES

The engine fuel system can become susceptible to fuel vapor formation on the ground during warm weather. This will generally occur when the outside ambient air temperature is above 80°F. The situation is further aggravated by the fact that the engine fuel flows are lower at idle and taxi engine speeds. When vapor occurs as evidenced by idle engine speed and fuel flow fluctuations, the following procedures are recommended.

1. With the mixture full rich, set the throttle at 1800 RPM to 2000 RPM. Maintain this power setting for 1 to 2 minutes or until smooth engine operation returns.
2. Retard the throttle to idle to verify normal engine operation.
3. Advance the throttle to 1200 RPM and lean the mixture as described under FUEL SAVINGS PROCEDURES FOR FLIGHT TRAINING OPERATIONS.
4. Just prior to TAKEOFF, apply full throttle, for approximately 10 seconds to verify smooth engine operation for takeoff.

NOTE

When the engine is operated above 1800 RPM, the resulting increased fuel flow also makes for lower fuel temperatures throughout the engine fuel system. This increased flow purges the fuel vapor and the cooler fuel minimizes vapor formation.

In addition to the above procedures, the sections below should be reviewed and where applicable, adhered to:

- Section 2 -- Take note of the placard on "When Switching From Dry Tank".
- Section 3 -- Take note of the excessive fuel vapor procedures in both the checklist and the amplified procedures sections.
- Section 4 -- Take note of the hot weather operational notes and procedures in both the checklist and the amplified procedures sections.
- Section 7 -- Take note of the altitude operational procedures and the section on auxiliary fuel pump operation.

STALLS

The stall characteristics are conventional and aural warning is provided by a stall warning horn which sounds between 5 and 10 knots above the stall in all configurations.

Power off stall speeds at maximum weight for both forward and aft C.G. positions are presented in Section 5.

SPINS

Intentional spins are approved when the airplane is operated in the utility category. Spins with baggage loadings or occupied rear seat(s) are not approved.

However, before attempting to perform spins several items should be carefully considered to assure a safe flight. No spins should be attempted without first having received dual instruction both in spin entries and spin recoveries from a qualified instructor who is familiar with the spin characteristics of the Cessna 172S.

The cabin should be clean and all loose equipment (including the microphone and rear seat belts) should be stowed or secured. For a solo flight in which spins will be conducted, the copilot's seat belt and shoulder harness should also be secured. Care should be taken to ensure that the pilot can easily reach the flight controls and produce maximum control travels.

It is recommended that, where feasible, entries be accomplished at high enough altitude that recoveries are completed 4000 feet or more above ground level. At least 1000 feet of altitude loss should be allowed for a 1-turn spin and recovery, while a 6-turn spin and recovery may require somewhat more than twice that amount. For example, the recommended entry altitude for a 6-turn spin would be 6000 feet above ground level. In any case, entries should be planned so that recoveries are completed well above the minimum 1500 feet above ground level required by FAR 91.303. Another reason for using high altitudes for practicing spins is that a greater field of view is provided which will assist in maintaining pilot orientation.

The normal entry is made from a power off stall. As the stall is approached, the elevator control should be smoothly pulled to the full aft position. Just prior to reaching the stall "break", rudder control in the desired direction of the spin rotation should be applied so that full rudder deflection is reached almost simultaneously with reaching full aft elevator. A slightly greater rate of deceleration than for normal stall entries, application of ailerons in the direction of the desired spin, and the use of power at the entry will assure more consistent and positive entries to the spin. As the airplane begins to spin, reduce the power to idle and return the ailerons to neutral. Both elevator and rudder controls should be held full with the spin until the spin recovery is initiated. An inadvertent relaxation of either of these controls could result in the development of a nose down spiral.

For the purpose of training in spins and spin recoveries, a 1 or 2 turn spin is adequate and should be used. Up to 2 turns, the spin will progress to a fairly rapid rate of rotation and a steep attitude. Application of recovery controls will produce prompt recoveries (within 1/4 turn). During extended spins of two to three turns or more, the spin will tend to change into a spiral, particularly to the right. This will be accompanied by an increase in airspeed and gravity loads on the airplane. If this occurs, recovery should be accomplished promptly but smoothly by leveling the wings and recovering from the resulting dive.

Regardless of how many turns the spin is held or how it is entered, the following recovery technique should be used:

1. VERIFY THAT THROTTLE IS IN IDLE POSITION AND AILERONS ARE NEUTRAL.
2. APPLY AND **HOLD** FULL RUDDER OPPOSITE TO THE DIRECTION OF ROTATION.
3. JUST **AFTER** THE RUDDER REACHES THE STOP, MOVE THE CONTROL WHEEL **BRISKLY** FORWARD FAR ENOUGH TO BREAK THE STALL.
4. **HOLD** THESE CONTROL INPUTS UNTIL ROTATION STOPS.
5. AS ROTATION STOPS, NEUTRALIZE RUDDER, AND MAKE A SMOOTH RECOVERY FROM THE RESULTING DIVE.

NOTE

If disorientation precludes a visual determination of the direction of rotation, the symbolic airplane in the turn coordinator may be referred to for this information.

Variations in basic airplane rigging or in weight and balance due to installed equipment or right seat occupancy can cause differences in behavior, particularly in extended spins. These differences are normal and will result in variations in the spin characteristics and in the spiraling tendencies for spins of more than 2 turns. However, the recovery technique should always be used and will result in the most expeditious recovery from any spin.

Intentional spins with flaps extended are prohibited, since the high speeds which may occur during recovery are potentially damaging to the flap/wing structure.

LANDING

NORMAL LANDING

Normal landing approaches can be made with power on or power off with any flap setting desired. Surface winds and air turbulence are usually the primary factors in determining the most comfortable approach speeds. Steep slips should be avoided with flap settings greater than 20° due to a slight tendency for the elevator to oscillate under certain combinations of airspeed, sideslip angle, and center of gravity loadings.

Actual touchdown should be made with power off and on the main wheels first to reduce the landing speed and subsequent need for braking in the landing roll. The nose wheel is lowered to the runway gently after the speed has diminished to avoid unnecessary nose gear loads. This procedure is especially important in rough or soft field landings.

SHORT FIELD LANDING

For a short field landing in smooth air conditions, make an approach at 61 KIAS with 30° flaps using enough power to control the glide path. (Slightly higher approach speeds should be used under turbulent air conditions.) After all approach obstacles are cleared, progressively reduce power and maintain the approach speed by lowering the nose of the airplane. Touchdown should be made with power off and on the main wheels first. Immediately after touchdown, lower the nose wheel and apply heavy braking as required. For maximum brake effectiveness, retract the flaps, hold the control wheel full back, and apply maximum brake pressure without sliding the tires.

CROSSWIND LANDING

When landing in a strong crosswind, use the minimum flap setting required for the field length. If flap settings greater than 20° are used in sideslips with full rudder deflection, some elevator oscillation may be felt at normal approach speeds. However, this does not affect control of the airplane. Although the crab or combination method of drift correction may be used, the wing low method gives the best control. After touchdown, hold a straight course with the steerable nose wheel and occasional braking if necessary.

The maximum allowable crosswind velocity is dependent upon pilot capability as well as airplane limitations. Operation in direct crosswinds of 15 knots has been demonstrated.

BALKED LANDING

In a balked landing (go-around) climb, reduce the flap setting to 20° immediately after full power is applied. If obstacles must be cleared during the go-around climb, reduce the wing flap setting to 10° and maintain a safe airspeed until the obstacles are cleared. Above 3000 feet, lean the mixture to obtain maximum RPM. After clearing any obstacles, the flaps may be retracted as the airplane accelerates to the normal flaps up climb speed.

COLD WEATHER OPERATION

Special consideration should be given to the operation of the airplane fuel system during the winter season or prior to any flight in cold temperatures. Proper preflight draining of the fuel system is especially important and will eliminate any free water accumulation. The use of additives such as isopropyl alcohol or diethylene glycol monomethyl ether may also be desirable. Refer to Section 8 for information on the proper use of additives.

Cold weather often causes conditions which require special care during airplane operations. Even small accumulations of frost, ice, or snow must be removed, particularly from wing, tail and all control surfaces to assure satisfactory flight performance and handling. Also, control surfaces must be free of any internal accumulations of ice or snow.

If snow or slush covers the takeoff surface, allowance must be made for takeoff distances which will be increasingly extended as the snow or slush depth increases. The depth and consistency of this cover can, in fact, prevent takeoff in many instances.

WARNING

WHEN PULLING THE PROPELLER THROUGH BY HAND, TREAT IT AS IF THE IGNITION SWITCH IS TURNED ON. A LOOSE OR BROKEN GROUND WIRE ON EITHER MAGNETO COULD CAUSE THE ENGINE TO FIRE.

Prior to starting on cold mornings, it is advisable to pull the propeller through several times by hand to "break loose" or "limber" the oil, thus conserving battery energy.

When air temperatures are below 20°F (-6°C), the use of an external preheater and an external power source are recommended whenever possible to obtain positive starting and to reduce wear and abuse to the engine and electrical system. Preheat will thaw the oil trapped in the oil cooler, which probably will be congealed prior to starting in extremely cold temperatures.

When using an external power source, the master switch must be in the OFF position before connecting the external power source to the airplane receptacle. See Section 7, Ground Service Plug Receptacle for external power source operations.

Cold weather starting procedures are the same as the normal starting procedures. Use caution to prevent inadvertent forward movement of the airplane during starting when parked on snow or ice.

NOTE

If the engine does not start during the first few attempts, or if engine firing diminishes in strength, it is probable that the spark plugs have been frosted over. Preheat must be used before another start is attempted.

During cold weather operations, no indication will be apparent on the oil temperature gage prior to takeoff if outside air temperatures are very cold. After a suitable warm up period (2 to 5 minutes at 1000 RPM), accelerate the engine several times to higher engine RPM. If the engine accelerates smoothly and the oil pressure remains normal and steady, the airplane is ready for takeoff.

WINTERIZATION KIT

A winterization kit is provided and may be utilized when cold weather operations are conducted.

HOT WEATHER OPERATION

Refer to the general warm temperature starting information under Starting Engine in this section. Avoid prolonged engine operation on the ground.

NOISE CHARACTERISTICS AND NOISE REDUCTION

The certificated noise level for the Model 172S at 2550 pounds maximum weight is 75.1 dB(A). No determination has been made by the Federal Aviation Administration that the noise levels of this airplane are or should be acceptable or unacceptable for operation at, into, or out of, any airport.

The following procedures are suggested to minimize the effect of airplane noise on the public:

1. Pilots operating airplanes under VFR over outdoor assemblies of persons, recreational and park areas, and other noise sensitive areas should make every effort to fly not less than 2000 feet above the surface, weather permitting, even though flight at a lower level may be consistent with the provisions of government regulations.
2. During departure from or approach to an airport, climb after takeoff and descent for landing should be made so as to avoid prolonged flight at low altitude near noise sensitive areas.

NOTE

The above recommended procedures do not apply where they would conflict with Air Traffic Control clearances or instructions, or where, in the pilot's judgment, an altitude of less than 2000 feet is necessary to adequately exercise the duty to see and avoid other airplanes.