

# CERTIFICATION INSPECTION CHECK LIST FOR: Amateur-Built Aircraft

Finally, this list is not all-inclusive, but generic in nature. Other things may be added as necessary

**Builder:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Model** \_\_\_\_\_ **S/N** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Inspection** \_\_\_\_\_

## Regulatory Prerequisites & Placards

Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Item

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Meets 51% rule, has invoices, plans, pictures and building records
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Presents notarized statement FAA Form Eligibility Statement
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Presents FAA Form 8130-6 Application for A/W Certificate properly filled out
4. \_\_\_\_\_ ID data plate is fireproof (steel), has Builder's name, model, serial number.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ ID data plate is installed in proper external location per FAR 45. 11(a).
6. \_\_\_\_\_ N-Numbers installed, block letters, 3" proper location per FAR 45.25, or 12 inch, if a/c has cruise speed over 180 Knots CAS.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Word Experimental Displayed, 2" min size, proper location per FAR 45.23(b).
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Passenger warning placard (not required for single place) ".This aircraft does not meet U.S. safety standards for certified aircraft..."
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Registration certificate available in aircraft. (NOT pink slip!)
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Builder makes statement in logbook that aircraft has been inspected
11. \_\_\_\_\_ A/C Weight and balance done, and shows within designer's limits.

## FAR 91.9 Placards

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ALL controls - flight and engine, marked as to use.  
Markings for:
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Throttle- open-closed
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Carb Heat- pull on
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Flaps- Up- Down, Degrees/Inches Take Off Setting Marked
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Trim Tab- Nose Up, Nose Down, Take Off setting
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Trim Tab- rudder left, rudder right, neutral
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Mixture- Push rich
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel On-Off levers
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel quantity and type marked on or near each cap

## Cockpit interior

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Seat Belts function, and angle is slightly rearward
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Shoulder harness function, and angle is -5 to + 30 degrees
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Seat Belt Anchor Points firm, no interference
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Shoulder Harness Anchor Points firm, no interference
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Seats and seat tracks o.k., stops on aft of rails

## Instruments and required equipment,

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ELT meeting TSO-C91A properly installed, with remote switch and battery date current and recorded in aircraft records (See [Checklist explanations Page](#)) for details FAR 91.205 and others
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel gauge each tank, has been calibrated and calibration in records showing unusable fuel
3. \_\_\_\_\_ VFR Day requirements: \* Note: All instruments should be marked with green/red line ranges
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Altimeter
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Airspeed indicator
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Tachometer
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Oil Pressure
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Oil Temperature
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Compass
10. \_\_\_\_\_ For retract gear aircraft, indicator of up/down gear
11. \_\_\_\_\_ VFR Night Requirements- Day VFR plus:
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Position Lights
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Anti-collision strobes/rotating beacon which meets FAA standards
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Spare fuses
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical energy sufficient for duration of aircraft range, plus reserve
16. \_\_\_\_\_ IFR Requirements Day & Night VFR, plus:
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Working two-way radio.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Gyroscopic rate of turn indicator (Turn & Bank or Turn Coordinator)
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Slip / Skid indicator
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Sensitive altimeter
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Artificial horizon
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Directional gyro
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Clock
24. \_\_\_\_\_ Vacuum gauge, if vacuum powered, or volt and amp meter, if electric
25. \_\_\_\_\_ Heated Pitot
26. \_\_\_\_\_ Generator or alternator.
27. \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Static Source.

## Systems

Wire type and size is appropriate for load being carried, and connections are solid. All installed systems perform as intended.

### Electrical

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Battery & Electrical System, wiring adequate size and secure
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Switches marked for operation, and wired properly
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Circuit Breakers or fuses labeled for value and function, and wired properly
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Ground on battery to airframe, or wired into place properly
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Ammeter
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Voltmeter
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Landing Lights / Position Lights wired correctly
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Cockpit lights/ Instrument lighting
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Battery case and battery securely mounted
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Battery vented overboard

### Avionics

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Antennas are properly installed, and have proper support/doubler plates
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Coax Cable secured, with slack enough to prevent disconnection
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Radios/Avionics and cooling fans are mounted securely
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Avionics gear is wired properly, and functions
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Transponder "Mode C" check done, and in aircraft records

### Fuel System

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Caps fit, and are vented on all tanks
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel drains installed at lowest portion of tank, and at lowest point in fuel lines
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Vent System contains no loops which would block venting
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Shutoff valve/ Selector switch ease of operation, and clearly marked for intended operation
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Line routing proper material and diameter for intended fuel supply
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Strainer functional and safety wired
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Lines protected from chafing, and secure from "catching a foot." ([Checklist explanations Page](#))
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel line routing avoids areas of heat

### Gear/Wheel/Brake Systems

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Retractable Gear functions- Operations check
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency gear extension test
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Clearance in wheel wells
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Brake System line routing, reservoir, pumps
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Brake & Wheel installation secure
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Taxi test on gear toe in/ toe out o.k.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Tires are clear of pants or struts, including clearance of "mud scraper", no binding
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Wheel Pants are secure
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Tail Spring secure, well designed, and is clear of rudder

## Control Surfaces

### Designers Recommended limits: This Plane Measures:

1. Aileron Up travel: \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches
2. Down travel : \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches
3. Elevator Up travel: \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches
4. Down travel: \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches
5. Rudder Left/Right \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees/Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Left \_\_\_\_\_ Right

### General Condition- Fuselage, Wing, Tail Assembly

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Skin condition, wrinkles, rivets, or tape
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Vertical Fin, movement and condition
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Elevator assembly, movement and condition
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Trim Tabs function, no binding, heavy structure to reduce flutter potential
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Control Travel "Stops"
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Control Cables Safety Wired Correctly
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Counterweights secure
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Doors close securely and open properly, if open in flight, markings
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Windows secure, and markings for distance if open in flight
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Canopy secure
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Canopy emergency release marked red and copper safety wired
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Canopy locks/door locks work

### Flight Controls

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Proper tension of cables
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Safety wiring of cables
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Clearance on controls/no hitting panel or floorboards
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Freedom of movement
5. \_\_\_\_\_ PROPER DIRECTION
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Is everything safetied?

### Engine Compartment

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Engine Compression in Logs 1=\_\_\_\_ 2=\_\_\_\_ 3=\_\_\_\_ 4=\_\_\_\_ 5=\_\_\_\_ 6=\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Throttle cables anchored and functional, spring open
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Clearances in engine compartment
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Carb Heat Control- Functional
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Mixture Control- Functional, spring full-rich
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Hose routing to avoid heat & bends (Firesleave preferred)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel strainer safety wired
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Hose diameter sufficient for engine
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel and Oil Hoses proper material
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Oil System Hose & Cooler installation
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Prop Governor. Functional, proper lines
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Firewall steel, no openings
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Engine Mount secure, no cracks
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Alternator, belts, accessories properly installed
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Heater hoses proper material
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Heater design minimizes CO poisoning chances
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Baffles appear correct
18. \_\_\_\_\_ All electrical and ignition wires appear correct
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Cowling secure, (INSTALL IT NOW).

## Propeller

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Propeller nicks
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Safety Wired Bolts of sufficient size
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Bolts torqued properly
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Bolts clear engine, proper length
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Prop clears ground in takeoff attitude by >7"
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Prop Spinner o.k., clear of cowl, not uneven spin
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Ready for Run-up.

Test Run Engine Note: At least one hour of runup should have been done previously, and logged in the aircraft logbook. The engine compressions should also be recorded after one hour of runup. Some may be low on a fresh overhaul engine, but it is important to get this information as a base line!

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Engine starts easily
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Oil Pressure comes up quickly to proper level
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Oil Temp comes off cold peg
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Check all instrument operations/tach/oil/volts/ etc.
5. Record all data five minutes after startup here

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6. \_\_\_\_\_ Carb Heat Functions, RPM Drop is \_\_\_\_\_
  7. \_\_\_\_\_ Mag Drop, Left is \_\_\_\_\_ Right is \_\_\_\_\_
  8. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Gauges show calibrated
  9. \_\_\_\_\_ Mixture/Throttle/Prop controls work
  10. \_\_\_\_\_ Fuel Shutoff works
  11. \_\_\_\_\_ No abnormal vibration
  12. \_\_\_\_\_ Propeller tracks within specs

## Airworthiness Directive Compliance

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Engine AD's which apply have been complied with, and how  
(Attach list if necessary)
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Equipment AD's which apply have been complied with, and how  
(Attach list if necessary)
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## Certification

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Logs present and builder records the following statement: **" I certify that I have built this aircraft for my own education and recreation, and I have inspected it fully. I am the manufacturer, and I consider it eligible for issuance of an Experimental Airworthiness Certificate for the purpose of operating amateur-built aircraft under provisions of FAR 21.191(g). "**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss operating limitations with applicant, flight test areas, and flight test time.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Airworthiness application properly filled out and signed?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Sign Logbook and issue certificate, if applicable.
5. **OR** \_\_\_\_\_ Provide list of deficiencies to applicant, if applicable

**Builder:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Model** \_\_\_\_\_

**S/N** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Inspection** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Unsatisfactory Conditions**

**N** \_\_\_\_\_

1. The following unsatisfactory conditions were noted in your inspection. It is your responsibility to correct these conditions prior to obtaining an airworthiness certificate. Please correct the deficiencies and return this list, with evidence of the corrections, to the certificating inspector.

2. Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Corrective action taken: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Corrective action taken: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_