

Passenger Safety Briefing – Cessna 172 – Ian Howlett

Introduction

- It is the law that I have to give you a passenger safety briefing.
- No smoking or drinking alcohol at any time.
- Please use the toilet before we leave the aero club.
- If you have any questions then please ask me.
- The only time I can't talk to you is during take-off and landing, or when somebody is speaking on the radio.**

Are you safe to fly as a passenger?

- I need to check that you are safe to fly, even as a passenger.
- If you have any illness, or are not feeling well before we leave the aero club, please let me know.**
- Tell me if you have a cold or blocked ears, because it could damage your ears if you fly.

Compulsory items before we leave the aero club

- High-viz:** You must be wearing a high-viz jacket whenever you're outside, and keep it fully fastened.
- Air-side pass:** Each passenger needs to have signed out an airside pass with the aero club reception.
- Mobile phone:** Set your mobile phone to flight mode, so it doesn't interfere with radio transmissions.
- It's OK to use the phone to take photos when we're in the air.
- Heavy bags:** Please tell me if you plan to take any bags weighing more than 5kg (11 lbs).

On the airfield: walking to and from the aircraft

- Wear a high-viz jacket whenever we are outside, and keep it fully fastened.**
- Walk close to me and only walk on the marked walkways.**
- Keep a good lookout for aircraft moving on the ground. Aircraft have right of way over pedestrians.
- Be careful of spinning propellers and jet engines, because they are very dangerous.**
- Treat all propellers as if they are live and spinning.
- If you hear somebody shout "Clear Prop", it means a propeller is about to start spinning: watch out for it.

Getting into the aircraft

- If you have any bags with you or things you won't need, put them on the back seat before you board.
- Remove your high-viz jacket just before getting into the aircraft (it's awkward to remove it when seated).
- The seatbelt works just like a car seatbelt. Buckle it, and press the button on the buckle to release it.
- Put your seatbelt on before you close the door, because the door gets in the way of the buckle.
- If you need any help fastening, tightening, loosening, or unfastening the seatbelt, please ask me.
- Keep your seatbelt on at all times in case we get unexpected turbulence. Don't worry if we get some turbulence or bumpy air, it's normal, especially during take-off and landing.
- After you close your door, push the latch lever fully down to lock the door.**
- You can adjust the seat forward and backwards by pulling a lever under the middle of the seat.
- Don't grab the large black control column or anything else to pull your seat forwards.
- Don't open the window at any time, because it can open very quickly and get damaged: let me know if you need more ventilation.

Keeping clear of the controls

- Don't let anything move around loose in the cabin, or fall out of your trouser pockets, in case it jams the rudder pedals.
- If anything falls on the floor at any time, pick it up immediately, so it keeps clear of the rudder pedals.
- There is a pocket in the door to hold items securely, such as cameras, spectacles, sunglasses, or maps.
- Keep yourself and all objects clear of the large black control column, and keep your feet well clear of the rudder pedals, because the controls all move around when we are flying.**
- Don't touch any controls or switches without asking me first.**
- If you accidentally touch any controls or switches, it's OK, but please tell me immediately.**

Talking to each other

- We will wear headsets, and we can talk to each other without anyone else hearing.
- Each headset has two cables, and they both need to be plugged in for the headset to work.
- You can adjust the microphone position, so position it close to your mouth when you put the headset on.
- Keep your headset on at all times, to protect your ears from the loud engine noise.
- When you speak, you will be able to hear yourself. If you can't hear yourself, I can't hear you either.
- If I am talking to air traffic control, please keep quiet, otherwise they will hear you loud and clear!**
- If you hear anyone else talking on the radio, please keep quiet, even if you don't think the message is for us, because I still need to hear it.
- If you see any aircraft once we're in the air, please tell me, and don't assume that I've seen them. An extra pair of eyes always helps.**

If you feel unwell

- If you feel uncomfortable or unwell at any time, please tell me straight away, and don't be embarrassed.**
- We've got sick bags in the rear seat pockets if you need them.
- If your ears feel stuffy, try swallowing. If that doesn't help, please tell me immediately.

Emergencies

- The first aid kit is in the rear seat pocket.
- The fire extinguisher is on the floor between the two front seats.
- The best emergency exits are the side doors that we normally use. You can also get out via the windows in the doors, or via the small baggage compartment door behind the rear seats.**
- If I become incapacitated, you can talk to air traffic control by holding down the button on the top right rear of the large black control column. Let go of the button when you have finished speaking.

Engine Failure

In the unlikely event of an engine failure:

- Stay calm, because it's something all pilots are trained to deal with.
- Keep quiet, because I will be very busy.
- Expect that we will have a bumpy landing into a farmer's field.
- Just before an emergency landing:**
 - Remove your spectacles or sunglasses** (so they don't break and injure you).
 - Remove your headset** (so you don't get tangled in the wires).
 - Slightly open your door** by pulling the latch handle upright (in case the landing damages the aircraft and the door will no longer open).
 - Keep your seatbelt on** until we have landed.
 - Adopt the brace position:**
head down, both hands on top of your head, hands not touching, elbows in front of you.
- After we land and have stopped:**
 - I will tell you when it is safe to leave the aircraft.
 - If I am incapacitated, get out of the aircraft without delay.
 - Walk towards the back of the aircraft, away from the propeller.**
 - Mind your head on the wing flaps, because they will be at head height.**
 - Move well clear of the aircraft in case it catches fire.**

At the end of the flight

- When we are coming in to land, I need to reduce the engine power to idle. Don't be alarmed by this, it's perfectly normal, and doesn't indicate a problem.
- The air is normally a little turbulent close to the ground, so don't worry if things feel a little uneven as we are flying down towards the runway.
- Please don't open the doors or get out of the aircraft until I say it is safe to do so, and never get out until the propeller has stopped.**
- When you get out of the aircraft, always walk towards the back of the aircraft, away from the propeller.