

PIPER PA38 Checklists



Koninklijke vliegclub De Wouw
Royal Aéro Club Le Milan
EBTN
016 / 81.22.78

IMPORTANT

This checklist is not an authoritative document. Full reference must be made to the individual aircraft flight Manual/Pilot Operating handbook as amended. Current ANO and AICs and Pilot Order book/Flying School Syllabus, local procedures, may also be relevant.

PRE-FLIGHT INSPECTION

AIRCRAFT	Documenation complete and satisfactory,
DOCUMENTS	Including valid Certificate of Maintenance if required.
WEATHER	Local, en-route and destination forecasts and actuals.
FLIGHT PLANNING	Current AIP/Flight Guide, NOTAMS, Amendments and bulletins. PPR, Daylight remaining, etc,
FUEL	Sufficient to destination and alternates, Contingency
CHARTS	Current and sufficient coverage for flight.
WEIGHT & BALANCE	Load (passengers, baggage, fuel) within limits.
PERFORMANCE	Take-off, en-route and range, landing.
PASSENGERS	Comfort and safety briefing, emergency procedures.
PILOT	Licence and experience current and valid. Medical certificate valid, fitness for flight.
SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT	For over water flight - dinghy accessible, Lifejackets worn but not inflated, Flares, Transceiver, ELT.
BOOK-OUT	Departure ATC, airfield movements book, aircraft tech. log
FLIGHT PLAN	File for IFR and International Flights, flight across water and sparsely populated areas

PRE-FLIGHT ACTION OF PILOT IN COMMAND

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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APPROACHING AIRCRAFT

Check	Access to taxiways, Obstructions, Level surface For fuel / oil spillages,
Remove	ANY ice or frost from ALL aircraft surfaces Tie downs and Towbar, External control locks, Pitot cover, Chocks

IN CABIN

1	Control Locks & Covers	Remove and Stow
2	Parking Brake	ON
3	Magneto Switches	Check OFF, Key OUT
4	Master Switch	ON
5	Stall Warner	Check
6	Pitot Heat	Check, then OFF
7	Anti-Collision Lights	Check, then OFF
8	Landing/Nav.Lights	Check as required, then OFF
9	Fuel	ON - Check contents
10	Master Switch	OFF
11	Throttle	Closed
12	Mixture	Idle Cutoff
13	Flaps	Lower 21° (1 st stage)
14	Trimmer	Check position
15	First Aid Kit	In Position - Secure
16	Fire Extinguisher	In Position - Secure

PRELIMINARY

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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EXTERNAL

Left Wing

1	Flap	Condition Linkages
2	Aileron	Condition, Linkages and Hinges Full and Free movement
3	Wing Tip	Condition, Security, Nav & Strobe lights
4	Wing Surface	Condition, Upper and Lower
5	Leading Edge	Dents, Stall Warner, Pitot Head checked,
6	Fuel Tank	VISUALLY CHECK CONTENTS, Cap secure, Fuel drain, Vent Clear

Left Undercarriage

1	Tyre	Condition, inflation. Creep marks aligned
2	Hydraulic Lines	Condition, leaks
3	Disc Brake	Condition
4	Leg and Fairing	Condition

Front Fuselage and Engine

1	Left Cowling	Check brake fluid level, Engine compartment, secure panel, Fuel drain
2	Windscreen	CLEAN, OAT probe secure
3	Nose Leg	Oleo extension, Torque link, Nuts and Split pins
4	Nose Wheel	Condition, Inflation Creep marks aligned
5	Front Cowling	Condition and Security, intakes clear Landing light
6	Propellor	Condition, especially leading edge
7	Right Cowling	Engine Compartment, Oil level Secure panel

EXTERNAL / 1

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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Right Undercarriage

1	Tyre	Condition, inflation. Creep marks aligned
2	Hydraulic Lines	Condition, leaks
3	Disc Brake	Condition
4	Leg and Fairing	Condition

Right Wing

1	Fuel Tank	VISUALLY CHECK CONTENTS , Cap secure, Fuel drain, Vent Clear
2	Leading Edge	Condition, check for dents,
3	Wing Surface	Condition, Upper and Lower
4	Wing Tip	Condition, Security, Nav & strobe lights
5	Aileron	Condition, Linkages and Hinges Full and Free movement
6	Flap	Condition Linkages

Right Fuselage

1	Door	Latch and Hinges secure
2	Windows	Clean
3	Skin	Condition
4	Antenna's	Secure
5	Static Vent	Clear

Tail Unit

1	Tail Fin	Condition and security, Fairings, Aerials
2	Rudder	Conditions, Linkages Nuts and split pins, Navigation light
3	Tailplane/Elevator	Conditions, Linkages

Left Fuselage

1	Skin	Condition
2	Aerials	Secure
3	Static Vent	Clear
4	Windows	Clean
5	Door	Latches and Hinges Secure

EXTERNAL / 2

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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INTERNAL

1	Seats	Adjusted and LOCKED
2	Hatches & Harnesses	Adjusted and secure
3	Parking Brake	ON
4	Radios	OFF
5	Instruments	Legible, Serviceable. Readings within limit
6	Controls	Full and free movement, correct sense
7	Trimmer	Check through full range, Set neutral
8	Flaps	Check in stages, up
9	Cabin Air Control	Closed (OFF)
10	Alternate Static	OFF
11	Carb. Heat.	Full and free movement, Set Cold
12	Throttle	Full and free movement, Set 0.5 cm open
13	Throttie Friction	Checked and Loose
14	Mixture	Full and free movement. Set Rich
15	Master Switch	ON
16	Circuit Breakers/Fuses	In/Secure
17	Fuel	ON, tank with lowest contents
18	Fuel Pump	ON, check fuel pressure, . OFF
19	Primer	Prime as required and lock
20	LOOKOUT	Good look round, call ' CLEAR PROP '
21	Magnetos	Keys in, operate starter

AFTER START

1	RPM	Set to 1200
2	Starter Warning Light	Out
3	Oil Pressure	Rising to green arc within 30 secs
4	Ammeter	Charging
5	Suction	Registering
6	Magnetos	Check for dead cut
7	Instruments	Set as required
8	Radios	Tuned and checked as required, Taxi clearance

INTERNAL & STARTING

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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TAXYING

1	Brakes	Checked before taxiing
2	Rudder	Movement and steering checked
3	Instruments	Check in turns DI, Compass Turn Coordinator, Attitude indicator

POWER CHECKS

1	Position	into wind, clear all around
2	Parking Brake	ON
3	Fuel	Change to fuller tank,
4	Oil Temp. and Press	Within limits,
5	Magnetos	Check
6	RPM	Set 2000 - Brakes holding
7	Carb. Heat.	Set HOT, max. drop 100 RPM Set COLD
8	Magnetos	Check LEFT & RIGHT Max drop 175 RPM Max diff. Btwn mags. 50 RPM
9	Suction	3" - 5"
10	Ammeter	Charging
11	Oil temp. and Press	Within limits
12	RPM	To idle, 500 - 700 RPM Reset 1200 RPM

TAXI & POWER CHECK

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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PRE TAKE-OFF CHECKS - VITAL ACTIONS

1	T	Trimmer	Set for take off
2	T	Throttle friction	Finger tight
3	M	Mixture	RICH
4	M	Magnetos	On BOTH, Master Switch ON
5	P	Pitot heather	As required
6	P	Primer	Locked
7	F	Fuel selector	On tank with highest contents,
8		Fuel pump	ON
9	F	Flaps	As required (see POH)
10	I	Instruments	Checked and set, Gyros Altimeter, Engine T° & Press.
11	H	Hatches	Doors and windows secure
12	H	Harness	Secure
13	C	Carb. Heat	COLD
14	C	Controls	Full and free movement

PRE-TAKE OFF CHECKS

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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TAKE OFF

1	LOOKOUT	Runway, approach and departure paths visually checked ATC clearance
2	RPM	Full power
3	Engine	Temp & Press, steady within limit
4	Airspeed	Increasing

AFTER TAKE-OFF

1	Flaps	Up if necessary
2	Engine	Temp / Press, steady within limit
3	Radios	Set, ATC clearance as necessary
4	Altimeter	Check
5	Fuel pump	OFF above 1000' AGL

PRE STALL / AEROBATIC CHECKS (H A S E L L)

(Slow flight and stall exercise can result in unintentional spin and therefore should only be started at altitudes granting adequate recovery space)

1	H	Height	Sufficient to recover by 4000' AGL. (if spinning see POH)
2	A	Airframe	Gyros caged, brakes off Flaps as required (see POH)
3	S	Security	Hatches and harnesses tight and Secure, no loose articles
4	E	Engine	Temp / Press, Check for Carb ice, mixture RICH
5		Fuel pump	ON
6	L	Location	Clear of cloud, controlled airspace Built up areas and airfields
7	L	LOOKOUT	360° turn to check for aircraft especially below

CONTINUED STALL / AEROBATICS (H E L L)

TAKE-OFF / STALL / AEROBATIC

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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CRUISE / RE-JOIN CHECKS (F R E D A)

1	F	Fuel selector	On and sufficient (including go-around & diversion)
2	F	Fuel pump	ON if necessary, tanks even
3	R	Radio	On and correct frequency set Joining instructions if required
4	E	Engine	Temp / Press, mixture Check for carb. Ice
5	D	DI	Synchronized with compass
6	A	Altimeter	QNH set as required

PRE-LANDING CHECKS

1	B	Brakes	OFF
2	U	Undercarriage	Fixed
3	M	Mixture	Rich
4	F	Fuel selector	On fullest tank, Sufficient
5	F	Fuel pump	ON
6	F	Flaps	As required
7	P	Pitch	Fixed
8	I	Instruments	Engine temp & press checked, Altimeter set
9	C	Carb. Heat	Checked, return Cold
10	H	Hatches	Secure
11	H	Harness	Secure and fastened

GO-AROUND

1	Throttle	Full power, correct for yaw
2	Carb. Heat	COLD
3	Flaps	Retract in stages at safe height
4	Radio	'Go-around' call, ATC instructions

CRUISE / RE-JOIN / GO-AROUND

PIPER PA38 Checklists



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AFTER LANDING

Vacate active runway and stop

1	Carb. Heat	Cold (if necessary)
2	Flaps	UP
3	Trimmer	Neutral
4	Throttle Nut	Loosen
5	Fuel pump	OFF
6	Anti-collision lights	OFF
7	Electrics	Non-essential OFF
8	Radios	Non-essential OFF

SHUT DOWN

1	Position	Into wind, nosewheel straight
2	Parking brake	ON
3	RPM	1200 for 30 secs
4	Magnetos	Check for dead cut
5	Radio	OFF
6	Throttle	Close
7	Mixture	Idle Cut Off (fully lean)

After engine stops

8	Magnetos	OFF, KEY OUT
9	Electrics	OFF
10	Master Switch	OFF
11	Harness	Left tidy
12	Hatches	Doors and windows closed.

LANDING & SHUT DOWN CHECKS



EMERGENCY FIRE

FIRE ON THE GROUND

If taxiing, stop clear of other aircraft, fuel trucks/stations, etc

1	Throttle	Closed
2	Mixture	Idle Cut Off (fully lean)
3	Fuel selector	OFF
4	Fuel pump	OFF
5	Magnetos	OFF
6	Master Switch	OFF
7	Brakes	Parking brake ON

Evacuate to a safe distance upwind, taking fire extinguisher.

CABIN FIRE IN THE AIR

1	Master Switch	OFF if electrical fire
2	Electrical circuits	OFF as required
3	Fire extinguisher	Use as necessary

Forced landing procedure or diversion as applicable

ENGINE FIRE IN THE AIR

1	Throttle	Close
2	Mixture	Idle Cut Off (fully lean)
3	Fuel selector	OFF
4	Fuel pump	OFF
5	Magnetos	OFF
6	Cabin heater/Defrost	OFF

Forced landing (without power) procedure

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RESTART

EMERGENCY : FIRE



EMERGENCY ELECTRICS

RADIO FAILURE

1	Radio	Check frequency, volume, squelch Check avionics selector/switches,
2	Headset	Check plugs secure, change Headsets, try hand microphone
3	Electrics	Check ammeter, Master Switch Circuit breakers - reset once only
4	Transponder	Set 7600

Speechless / Transmit blind / Non-radio procedure as appropriate

ELECTRICAL FAILURE

1	Electric load	Reduce (non-essential electrics/radio only)
2	Field/Output Circuit Breaker	Check / Reset
3	Ammeter/Low voltage Warning light	Check
4	If NO OUTPUT Reset Master Switch (off for 2 secs, then on)	IF OUTPUT RESTORED Restore essential electrics singly

IN THE EVENT OF REPEATED/CONTINUED ELECTRICAL failure : select only essential electrical services, divert if applicable, note radio transmission makes a particular heavy drain on the battery

EMERGENCY / ELECTRICS



EMERGENCY ENGINE

ENGINE FAILURE AFTER TAKE-OFF (E F A T O)

Lower nose to maintain best glide airspeed,
Select landing area ahead, use flaps as necessary,

1	Fuel selector	OFF
2	Fuel pump	OFF
3	Magnetos	OFF
4	Master Switch	OFF

Brief passengers/tighten harness/unlatch door as time permits

NEVER ATTEMPT TO TURN BACK

ENGINE FAILURE AT ALTITUDE (Forced landing without power)

Immediate actions,

Attain and maintain best glide speed – TRIM,
Assess surface wind, Select suitable landing area, Plan approach pattern,
Check for Cause of failure,

1	Carb Heat	ON
2	Fuel selector	Change tanks, check sufficient,
3	Fuel pump	ON
4	Mixture	Check
5	Primer	LOCKED
6	Magnetos	On BOTH
7	Throttle	Check

If engine does not restart, R/T 'MAYDAY' call, Committed checks

1	Fuel selector	OFF
2	Fuel pump	OFF
3	Magnetos	OFF
4	Harness	Tight
5	Doors	Unlatched
6	Crew / passengers	Briefed, as time permits
7	Master Switch	OFF

EMERGENCY / ENGINE



EMERGENCY

DITCHING AT SEA

DITCHING PROCEDURE (without power)

Establish glide, head for coast line or any shipping area, check for causes of failure as time permits.

1	Radio	MAYDAY call
2	Transponder	7700
3	Harnesses	Tight
4	Doors	Unlatched, DV window open
5	Crew / passengers	Briefed

Large swell / Light wind : land along swell, tail down stalled

Light swell / Strong wind : Landing into wind, tail down stalled

After ditching, use survival equipment :

DO NOT INFLATE LIFE JACKETS IN CABIN

Emergencies by their nature are not standard, and this checklist can only provide a guide to the appropriate actions - in an emergency :

PILOT JUDGEMENT SHOULD DICTATE PILOT ACTIONS

EMERGENCY / DITCHING