



Commercial Pilot Checklist

Part 61 Private pilot to Commercial Pilot ASEL only.

Prerequisites

- Valid private pilot certificate and third-class medical (or greater – a second-class medical is required to exercise commercial privileges once you pass your checkride).
- At least 18 years old
- Read, speak, write, and understand English
- 70% or better score on commercial pilot knowledge test

Minimum Aeronautical Experience

- 250 hours of flight time**, including at least
 - 100 hours in powered aircraft**, of which **50 hours must be in airplanes**
 - 100 hours of pilot-in-command** flight time, which includes at least –
 - 50 hours in airplanes**
 - 50 hours in cross-country flight (10 hrs. or more in airplanes)**
 - 20 hours of training** on the areas of operation in §61.127(b)(1) that includes at least –
 - 10 hours of instrument training** using a view-limiting device including attitude instrument flying, partial panel skills, recovery from unusual flight attitudes, and intercepting and tracking navigational systems. (5 of the 10 hours must be in airplanes)
 - 10 hours of training in a complex aircraft** (retractable landing gear, flaps, and controllable pitch propeller or turbine powered)
 - One 2-hour day XC flight** in a single engine airplane, w/ total straight-line distance of more than 100nm from original point of departure.
 - One 2-hour night XC flight** in a single engine airplane, w/ total straight-line distance of more than 100nm from original point of departure.



- 3 hours of practical test prep flights within the preceding 2 calendar months** with a CFI
- 10 hours of solo flight time in a single engine airplane** OR 10 hours of flight time performing the duties of PIC in a single engine airplane w/ a CFI on board, including –
 - One XC flight of not less than 300nm** total distance, with landings at a minimum of three points, one of which is a straight-line distance of at least 250 nautical miles from the original departure point.
 - 5 hours night VFR w/ 10 takeoffs and 10 landings** (each with a flight in the traffic pattern), at an airport w/ an operating control tower

Endorsements Required for the Checkride

These endorsements are specifically required for the checkride.

- Practical Test Endorsement** – Certifies you're ready for the checkride.
- Recent Training Endorsement** – Certifies you have the 3 hours of dual in the last 2 months. (See above)
- Knowledge Test Deficient Areas Endorsement** – Certifies your instructor has gone back over, and trained you on knowledge test questions you missed.

Plus, you should *already* have these endorsements in your logbook:

- Complex Aircraft Endorsement** (§61.31(e))
- Knowledge Test Endorsement or Review of Home Study Curriculum** (§61.123)

Note: You needed this endorsement before taking the knowledge test.