COMING SOON

1946 Cessna 140

Essen, Germany



STARTING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	BIDS PLACED	RESERVE PRICE
—	—	0	No

LOT	AUCTION	BRAND	CATEGORY
#133	#112	Cessna	Aircraft

BIDDING CLOSES	SELLER
—	C****s

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DESCRIPTION

The 1946 Cessna 140 is a charming classic aircraft for sale with strong post-war American aviation heritage, simple tailwheel character, and timeless collector appeal. Introduced in 1946, the Cessna 140 became one of Cessna's most recognizable two-seat light aircraft and remains highly appreciated by pilots who value traditional flying, clean design, and vintage authenticity.

For buyers searching for a Cessna 140 for sale , classic Cessna aircraft , vintage aircraft auction , two-seat tailwheel aircraft , or collector aircraft , this 1946 Cessna 140 represents a strong opportunity to acquire a historic light aircraft with practical owner-pilot appeal.

Key Listing Highlights

Highlight

Why It Matters

Classic aircraft for sale

Strong appeal for vintage aviation enthusiasts and collectors

Cessna 140

Recognizable post-war Cessna design with lasting market interest

Two-seat aircraft

Simple, focused, and ideal for recreational flying

High-wing aircraft

Excellent visibility and classic light-aircraft proportions

Tailwheel aircraft

Authentic stick-and-rudder flying experience

Fixed landing gear

Simple configuration and easier long-term maintenance profile

Collector aircraft

Strong nostalgic value and excellent ramp presence

A Post-War Cessna with Lasting Appeal

The Cessna 140 was introduced during the post-war general aviation boom, when private flying became more accessible to a new generation of pilots. Cessna positioned the model as an affordable trainer and economical two-seat cross-country aircraft, and more than 7,600 Cessna 120, 140, and 140A aircraft were built between 1946 and 1951.

Unlike more complex vintage aircraft, the 1946 Cessna 140 is appealing because of its simplicity. It does not rely on speed, luxury, or mechanical complexity. Instead, its value comes from honest flying qualities, classic proportions, and the direct connection it gives pilots to the fundamentals of aviation.

This makes the Cessna 140 especially suitable for CollectAirs because it is recognizable, easy to market visually, and attractive to both experienced collectors and pilots looking for a more accessible vintage aircraft .

Technical Features & Flying Character

The Cessna 140 is a single-engine piston aircraft with two seats, a high-wing layout, conventional tailwheel landing gear, and fixed landing gear. The original model is commonly associated with an 85 hp Continental engine , giving it modest but enjoyable performance for classic recreational flying. Planephd lists the 1946–1948 Cessna 140 with 1 × 85 hp , 88 KIAS best cruise speed , 315 NM best range , and 1,500 lb gross weight .

AOPA describes typical Cessna 120/140 cruise performance at around 105–110 mph , or roughly 91–95 kt , depending on engine, propeller, and aircraft condition. With 25 gallons of fuel, AOPA notes an estimated endurance of about four and a half hours and around 500 statute miles of range.

Core Technical Appeal

- Single-engine piston aircraft configuration
- High-wing aircraft visibility
- Two-seat aircraft simplicity
- Tailwheel aircraft handling
- Fixed landing gear for mechanical simplicity
- Classic Continental engine heritage
- Strong appeal as a vintage aircraft auction candidate

The Cessna 140 is not a high-speed touring aircraft. Its appeal lies in low-and-slow flying, simple systems, direct control feel, and the emotional value of owning a true post-war Cessna classic.

Exterior & Interior Character

The exterior of the 1946 Cessna 140 is defined by its compact high-wing profile, rounded tail surfaces, conventional landing gear, and clean light-aircraft proportions. Depending on the individual aircraft, examples may feature polished metal, painted finishes, or classic period-style liveries.

Inside, the Cessna 140 offers a simple two-seat cockpit designed around essential flying. The cabin is compact, functional, and pilot-focused, with analog instrumentation, straightforward controls, and the classic atmosphere expected from a post-war light aircraft.

Visual Features That Make the Cessna 140 Stand Out

- Classic high-wing aircraft silhouette
- Compact two-seat aircraft cabin
- Conventional tailwheel aircraft stance
- Fixed landing gear
- Rounded post-war Cessna design language
- Strong visibility from the cabin
- Easy-to-generate aircraft shape for marketing images

Ownership Appeal

The 1946 Cessna 140 is ideal for buyers who want a collector aircraft that is simple, usable, and historically meaningful. It offers a more refined identity than many basic vintage trainers while still remaining approachable for owner-pilots who appreciate classic aviation.

For collectors, the aircraft’s appeal comes from its place in Cessna history. For pilots, it offers a rewarding stick-and-rudder experience that is increasingly rare in modern training and recreational aircraft.

As a vintage aircraft for sale , the Cessna 140 is well suited to private owners, flying clubs, aviation museums, tailwheel pilots, and classic aviation enthusiasts who want an aircraft with strong character and manageable complexity.

Best Suited For

Buyer Type

Why This Aircraft Fits

Vintage aircraft collectors

Strong post-war Cessna identity and historic value

Private owner-pilots

Simple, enjoyable aircraft for local flying and light touring

Tailwheel pilots

Authentic conventional-gear handling

Flying clubs

Useful for classic flying and tailwheel experience

Aviation museums

Relevant post-war general aviation history

Classic aviation enthusiasts

Nostalgic design, simple systems, and strong visual appeal

The Perfect Airplane For

This 1946 Cessna 140 is perfect for a buyer looking for a classic aircraft for sale that is visually iconic, mechanically simple, and enjoyable to fly.

It is especially well suited to buyers who appreciate:

- Vintage aircraft ownership
- Classic Cessna aircraft
- Two-seat tailwheel aircraft
- High-wing light aircraft
- Post-war aircraft history
- Single-engine piston aircraft
- Collector aircraft
- Simple recreational flying

The Cessna 140 is not the obvious choice for someone seeking modern avionics, high cruise speed, or large cabin capacity. It is the right aircraft for someone who values simplicity, authenticity, and the timeless feeling of classic general aviation.

Pros & Considerations

Pros

Considerations

Strong classic aircraft and collector appeal

Limited cabin space compared with larger touring aircraft

Simple single-engine piston aircraft design

Tailwheel experience is recommended

Excellent high-wing aircraft visibility

Performance is modest by modern standards

Strong Cessna heritage

Aircraft condition varies significantly by restoration history

Easy-to-understand visual identity

Useful load depends on equipment and configuration

Good fit for vintage aircraft auction positioning

Logbooks, fabric/metal condition, and engine status should be reviewed carefully

Review-Style Summary

The 1946 Cessna 140 is a strong CollectAirs listing candidate because it combines simplicity, history, visual clarity, and emotional appeal. It is the kind of aircraft that does not need heavy explanation: it looks classic, feels honest, and immediately speaks to pilots who appreciate vintage aviation.

Its strongest advantage is accessibility. The Cessna 140 is collectible without being overly exotic, historic without being too obscure, and visually distinctive without being difficult to represent in high-quality listing images.

For CollectAirs, this listing can target valuable search intent around Cessna 140 for sale , classic Cessna for sale , classic aircraft for sale , vintage aircraft auction , tailwheel aircraft , two-seat aircraft , and collector aircraft .

Key Takeaways

- The Cessna 140 is a classic post-war light aircraft with strong collector appeal.
- Its high-wing aircraft layout and fixed tailwheel gear make it visually clear and easy to market.
- The aircraft is ideal for vintage aircraft collectors , tailwheel pilots, private owners, and flying clubs.
- It offers simple ownership character compared with larger or more complex vintage aircraft.
- This is a strong listing for buyers searching for a classic aircraft for sale , Cessna 140 for sale , or vintage aircraft auction .

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Year	**1946**
Model	**Cessna 140**

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	Continental C-85 / Continental 85 hp class, depending on aircraft configuration
Engine Type	Single 4-cylinder horizontally opposed piston engine
Horsepower	approx. 1 × 85 hp
Propeller Type	2-blade fixed-pitch propeller

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	approx. 88 KIAS / 91–95 kt depending on source and c onfiguration
Range	approx. 315 NM / up to around 500 statute miles depending o n fuel and configuration
Payload	approx. 560–665 lb useful load, depending on equipment, fuel l oad, and aircraft configuration
Passengers	1 passenger + 1 pilot / 2 seats total

PHOTOGRAPHS

5 of 6 photographs reproduced here. The complete gallery is on the listing page.

EXTERIOR




CESSNA
AI enhanced image


AI enhanced image



INTERIOR


PROTECT YOUR STARTER!
DO NOT CRANK STARTER FOR MORE THAN
PUSH TO START
ALTERNATOR
N 76926
CESSNA 140
CESSNA 140
122.80
123.80
ALTR
MSTR
AI enhanced image

HOW TO BID ON THIS LOT

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collectairs.com/auctions/1946-cessna-140

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Bad Arolsen, Germany

€24,000 CURRENT PRICE

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