COMING SOON

Funk B85C Bee

Glücksburg, Germany



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

LOT	AUCTION	BRAND	CATEGORY
#105	#88	Funk Aircraft Company	Aircraft

BIDDING CLOSES	SELLER
—	C****s

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DESCRIPTION

The Funk B85C Bee is one of the most distinctive post-war light aircraft in American aviation history — a two-seat, high-wing tailwheel aircraft known for its elegant lines, efficient performance, exceptional visibility, and remarkably honest flying characteristics.

For pilots and aviation buyers, the Funk Bee occupies a unique niche in the market. It combines vintage craftsmanship, low operating costs, and classic tailwheel flying into an aircraft that remains highly sought after by collectors and recreational aviators alike. Whether used for local sightseeing, weekend cross-country trips, fly-ins, or antique aircraft gatherings, the Funk B85C delivers an aviation experience that modern aircraft simply cannot replicate.

The 1946 Funk B85C Bee is especially attractive for buyers searching for a classic aircraft for sale, vintage tailwheel airplane, antique aircraft, Continental-powered cruiser, post-war aircraft, or a collectible light airplane with strong historical significance.

Quick Facts

Details

Aircraft Type

Two-seat vintage tailwheel aircraft

Model Focus

1946 Funk B85C Bee

Engine

Continental C85

Power

85 hp

Seating

1 pilot + 1 passenger

Landing Gear

Fixed conventional (tailwheel)

Cruise Speed

Approximately 95–105 mph

Construction

Steel-tube fuselage, fabric-covered structure

Propeller

Fixed-pitch wooden propeller

Buyer Appeal

Vintage flying, collecting, recreational cruising

Key Takeaway

The Funk B85C is not designed for speed or utility. It is designed to preserve the golden age of personal aviation. Lightweight, efficient, and charming, it remains one of the most recognizable and enjoyable post-war aircraft ever produced.

Powerplant, Systems & Technical Highlights

The 1946 Funk B85C Bee is powered by the dependable Continental C85 engine producing 85 horsepower. This lightweight powerplant provides excellent fuel economy while delivering enough performance for relaxed recreational flying and short cross-country missions.

The aircraft's simple systems and straightforward construction contribute to its reputation as an approachable and enjoyable classic aircraft to own.

Technical Highlights

- Continental C85 engine
- 85 horsepower
- High-wing configuration
- Conventional tailwheel landing gear
- Fabric-covered wings and control surfaces
- Steel-tube fuselage structure
- Exceptional downward visibility
- Lightweight and efficient design
- Fixed-pitch wooden propeller
- Simple mechanical systems

What makes the Funk B85C technically attractive?

It combines proven engineering, straightforward maintenance, excellent fuel efficiency, and classic tailwheel handling characteristics into a package that remains practical nearly eighty years after its introduction.

Buyer Perspective

Category

Strengths

Considerations

Vintage Flying

Authentic post-war flying experience

Older aircraft requires proper preservation

Collectibility

Rare and historically significant

Limited fleet size

Operating Costs

Efficient Continental engine

Slower than modern trainers

Recreational Flying

Comfortable and enjoyable cruiser

Limited payload compared to newer aircraft

Ownership

Simple systems and straightforward design

Parts availability may require specialist sourcing

For buyers asking, "Is the Funk B85C a good vintage aircraft?" the answer is absolutely yes. It remains one of the most respected post-war light aircraft among antique aircraft owners and pilots who appreciate traditional flying.

Exterior & Cockpit

The Funk B85C Bee possesses one of the most recognizable silhouettes in classic aviation. Its high-wing configuration, rounded vertical stabilizer, graceful fuselage lines, and vintage proportions create an aircraft that draws attention wherever it lands.

Unlike modern composite aircraft designed primarily around performance metrics, the Funk Bee reflects an era when elegance and simplicity were equally important.

Exterior Highlights

- Classic high-wing configuration
- Distinctive Funk Bee profile
- Fabric-covered flying surfaces
- Tailwheel landing gear
- Streamlined post-war styling
- Excellent visibility from the cabin
- Lightweight airframe construction
- Attractive vintage paint schemes
- Strong presence at fly-ins and aviation events

The aircraft's compact size and timeless design make it instantly recognizable among classic aircraft enthusiasts.

The Perfect Airplane For

The Funk B85C is ideal for buyers who value aviation heritage as much as flying itself. It attracts pilots who enjoy antique aircraft ownership, local recreational flying, and preserving a unique piece of aviation history.

Who is the Funk B85C best suited for?

It is best suited for pilots and collectors who prioritize character, craftsmanship, and flying enjoyment over speed, payload, or advanced technology.

The Funk B85C is ideal for:

- Vintage aircraft collectors
- Antique aircraft enthusiasts
- Tailwheel pilots
- Recreational flyers

- Aviation history enthusiasts
- Fly-in participants
- Weekend adventure pilots
- Owners seeking a unique classic aircraft

The Funk Bee is not intended to compete with modern trainers or touring aircraft. Its value comes from delivering a flying experience rooted in the earliest days of personal aviation.

Buyer Fit Assessment

Buyer Type	Fit Level	Why It Works
Vintage aircraft collector	Excellent	Rare and historically significant
Tailwheel enthusiast	Excellent	Authentic conventional gear flying
Recreational pilot	Strong	Relaxed and enjoyable flying experience
Aviation history enthusiast	Excellent	Represents post-war aviation heritage
First-time aircraft buyer	Moderate	Tailwheel training recommended
Cross-country traveler	Moderate	Capable but not designed for speed
Family aircraft buyer	Low	Two-seat configuration
Museum or showcase owner	Excellent	Attractive and uncommon classic aircraft

Potential Buyer Profile

You appreciate classic aviation design.

You enjoy tailwheel aircraft.

You value simplicity over complexity.

You participate in fly-ins and vintage aviation events.

You enjoy recreational sightseeing flights.

You want an aircraft that stands out from modern trainers.

You appreciate post-war aviation history.

You are looking for a rare and collectible aircraft with genuine character.

In short, the 1946 Funk B85C Bee is the perfect airplane for pilots and collectors who appreciate the heritage of general aviation. Charming, efficient, and unmistakably classic, it delivers a flying experience that connects today's pilot with the golden age of American aviation.

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Year	**1946**
Model	**Funk B85C Bee**

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	**Continental C85-12**
Engine Type	**Four-Cylinder Air-Cooled Horizontal Opposed**
Horsepower	**85 hp**
Propeller Type	**Fixed-Pitch Wooden Propeller**

Airframe & Exterior

Length	**21ft 5in (6.53 m)**
Wingspan	**35ft (10.67 m)**
Height	**6ft 8in (2.03 m)**

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	**87 knots**
Range	**365 nmi**
Fuel Capacity	**20 gal (76 L)**
Service Ceiling	**13,000 ft**
Rate of Climb	**600 ft/min**

PHOTOGRAPHS

9 of 10 photographs reproduced here. The complete gallery is on the listing page.

EXTERIOR




Bee
AI-ENHANCED IMAGE


AI-ENHANCED IMAGE


AI-ENHANCED IMAGE


AI-ENHANCED IMAGE

INTERIOR



MECHANICAL




AI-ENHANCED IMAGE


AI-ENHANCED IMAGE

HOW TO BID ON THIS LOT

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Bad Arolsen, Germany

€24,000 CURRENT PRICE

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