COMING SOON

Lancair 360

Loitz, Germany

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DESCRIPTION

The Lancair 360 is one of the aircraft that redefined what pilots expected from the experimental category. Sleek, lightweight, and remarkably fast, it was designed to deliver sports-car performance in the sky while retaining the efficiency of a four-cylinder Lycoming engine.

Developed during the rise of high-performance composite kit aircraft, the Lancair 360 quickly earned a reputation for outrunning many certified airplanes with significantly more horsepower. Its smooth composite airframe, laminar-flow wing, and responsive handling make it one of the most respected experimental aircraft ever built.

For aviation buyers searching for a Lancair 360 for sale , experimental aircraft , high-performance kitplane , composite sport aircraft , fast cross-country airplane , homebuilt aircraft , Lycoming O-360 aircraft , or two-seat experimental cruiser , the Lancair 360 remains one of the most desirable aircraft in its class.

Quick Facts

Details

Aircraft type

Experimental amateur-built, high-performance composite aircraft

Model focus

Lancair 360

Manufacturer

Lancair International

First flight

1988

Engine

1 × Lycoming O-360 four-cylinder piston engine

Power

Approx. 180 hp

Crew

1 pilot

Passenger capacity

1 passenger

Landing gear

Fixed tricycle landing gear

Core appeal

Composite speed, efficient cross-country performance, experimental aircraft, builder customization

Key Takeaway: The Lancair 360 is not simply a fast homebuilt—it is one of the landmark composite kit aircraft ever produced, combining remarkable speed, lightweight engineering, and efficient cross-country capability in an airplane that continues to attract serious experimental aviation enthusiasts.

Powerplant, Systems & Technical Highlights

The Lancair 360 is powered by a Lycoming O-360 four-cylinder, air-cooled engine producing approximately 180 horsepower . While modest on paper, the aircraft's exceptionally clean aerodynamics allow it to cruise at speeds that rival or exceed many certified aircraft equipped with substantially larger engines.

Its composite construction plays a significant role in its performance. The smooth fiberglass airframe minimizes drag while reducing weight, resulting in impressive climb performance, fuel efficiency, and cruise speeds that have made the Lancair family famous.

Technical highlights include:

- Powerplant: 1 × Lycoming O-360 piston engine
- Power output: 180 hp
- Engine layout: Four-cylinder horizontally opposed, air-cooled engine
- Aircraft category: Experimental amateur-built high-performance aircraft
- Crew: 1
- Passenger capacity: 1 passenger
- Maximum speed: 209 kt / 240 mph / 386 km/h
- Cruise speed: Approx. 190–200 kt / 219–230 mph
- Range: Approx. 900–1,100 statute miles
- Construction: Composite fiberglass airframe

What makes the Lancair 360 technically attractive? It combines efficient composite construction, low aerodynamic drag, responsive handling, and exceptional cruise performance in an aircraft that requires only 180 horsepower to outperform many larger certified airplanes.

Buyer Perspective

Strengths

Considerations

Performance

Outstanding cruise speed for a fixed-gear aircraft

Demands disciplined energy management during landing

Composite construction

Lightweight, corrosion-resistant airframe

Composite repairs require experienced technicians

Operating efficiency

High cruise performance with relatively low fuel burn

Actual performance varies by engine, propeller, and build quality

Experimental category

Builder customization and modern avionics flexibility

Every aircraft differs depending on original construction and maintenance

Cross-country capability

Excellent range and travel efficiency

Cabin space is limited compared to larger touring aircraft

For buyers asking, "Is the Lancair 360 a practical cross-country aircraft?" the answer is yes—for experienced pilots. It offers exceptional speed and efficiency, but every aircraft should be evaluated individually for build quality, maintenance history, and documentation before purchase.

Exterior & Cockpit

The Lancair 360 remains instantly recognizable thanks to its sleek composite fuselage, pointed nose, flowing canopy, and low-drag wing design. Even decades after its introduction, its silhouette still looks modern on any ramp.

Unlike many kit aircraft that prioritize simplicity, the Lancair 360 was designed around aerodynamic efficiency, resulting in an airplane that appears fast even while parked.

Exterior highlights include:

- Smooth composite fiberglass airframe
- Low-wing laminar-flow design
- Streamlined fixed tricycle landing gear with wheel fairings
- Distinctive bubble canopy providing excellent visibility
- Long pointed nose with tightly cowled engine installation
- Clean wing-to-fuselage blending for reduced drag
- Highly polished appearance with modern composite styling
- Strong appeal for experimental aircraft enthusiasts and high-performance touring pilots

Inside, the Lancair 360 offers a cockpit that reflects its mission as a serious personal traveling machine. Seating is intimate, controls are precise, and many aircraft feature highly customized avionics chosen by their builders.

Cockpit highlights include:

- Side-by-side two-seat cockpit
- Dual control-stick configuration
- Bubble canopy providing panoramic visibility
- Builder-configurable instrument panel ranging from traditional analog gauges to full glass avionics
- Center console with engine and systems controls
- Comfortable seating for long cross-country flights
- Sport-aircraft ergonomics emphasizing pilot engagement
- Excellent visibility for both VFR touring and scenic flying

The cockpit of the Lancair 360 feels purposeful, modern, and distinctly performance-oriented. For a CollectAirs buyer, it represents a pilot-focused environment where speed, efficiency, and precision come together.

The Perfect Airplane For

The Lancair 360 is perfect for buyers seeking one of the fastest fixed-gear experimental aircraft available. It appeals particularly to pilots who value efficient cross-country travel, composite engineering, responsive handling, and the freedom of the Experimental-Amateur Built category.

Who is the Lancair 360 best suited for? It is best suited for a buyer who wants exceptional cruise performance, lightweight composite construction, and an aircraft that rewards proficient stick-and-rudder flying.

The Lancair 360 is ideal for:

- Experienced experimental aircraft pilots
- High-performance cross-country travelers
- Composite aircraft enthusiasts
- Builders and owners who appreciate customized aircraft
- Pilots upgrading from slower certified singles
- Aviation enthusiasts seeking exceptional speed per horsepower
- Collectors of influential homebuilt aircraft
- Owners looking for efficient personal transportation

The Lancair 360 is not ideal for buyers seeking primary flight training, four-seat utility, or a low-performance recreational airplane. Its value lies in speed, efficiency, responsive handling, and the unique personality of one of the world's most successful composite kit aircraft.

Buyer Type

Fit Level

Why It Works

Experimental aircraft enthusiast

Excellent

One of the most respected composite kit aircraft ever produced

Cross-country pilot

Excellent

Exceptional cruise speed and efficiency

High-performance aircraft owner

Strong

Sports-car handling with impressive speed

Builder or restoration enthusiast

Strong

Builder customization makes every aircraft unique

First-time aircraft buyer

Low

Performance requires experience and transition training

Four-seat family aircraft buyer

Low

Designed as a two-seat personal aircraft

Recreational weekend flyer

Moderate

Excels most when used for fast cross-country missions

Potential buyer profile:

- You want one of the fastest fixed-gear piston aircraft available.
- You appreciate composite aircraft engineering.
- You value speed, efficiency, and long-range cross-country capability.
- You understand the importance of evaluating individual builder quality and maintenance records.
- You are comfortable operating a responsive, high-performance aircraft.
- You appreciate the flexibility and innovation of the Experimental-Amateur Built category.
- You want an aircraft that feels modern, efficient, and rewarding to fly.

In short, the Lancair 360 is the perfect airplane for a buyer who believes performance comes from intelligent engineering rather than brute horsepower. It is a landmark composite aircraft that combines speed, efficiency, and pilot engagement into one of the most iconic experimental airplanes ever built.

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Gross Weight	**2,050 lb (930 kg)**
Empty Weight	**1,150 lb (522 kg)**

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	**Lycoming O-360**
Engine Type	**Four-Cylinder, Horizontally Opposed, Air-Cooled Piston Engine**
Horsepower	**180 hp**
Propeller Type	**2-Blade Constant-Speed Propeller**

Airframe & Exterior

Length	**20 ft 4 in (6.20 m)**
Wingspan	**23 ft 10 in (7.26 m)**
Height	**7 ft 2 in (2.18 m)**

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	**200 kt (230 mph, 370 km/h)**
Range	**Approx. 950 nmi (1,090 mi, 1,760 km)**
Fuel Capacity	**42 US gal (159 L)**
Service Ceiling	**18,000 ft (5,486 m)**
Rate of Climb	**1,800 ft/min (9.1 m/s)**

PHOTOGRAPHS

7 of 8 photographs reproduced here. The complete gallery is on the listing page.

EXTERIOR

AI-ENHANCED IMAGE

AI-ENHANCED IMAGE

AI-ENHANCED IMAGE

INTERIOR

MECHANICAL

HARTZELL
HARTZELL
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