COMING SOON

Taylorcraft BC-12D

Sassenberg, Germany



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LOT	AUCTION	BRAND	CATEGORY
#57	#55	Taylorcraft Aviation	Aircraft

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DESCRIPTION

The Taylorcraft BC-12D is a classic American light taildragger known for its simplicity, low operating costs, and pure stick-and-rudder flying experience. Built around a lightweight fabric-and-tube airframe, it remains a favorite among vintage aircraft pilots, tailwheel trainers, and recreational aviators who value straightforward, unfiltered flight dynamics.

It is not a performance aircraft in the modern sense, but it excels in what it was designed for: economical flying, short-field capability at light weights, and highly responsive low-speed handling.

Powerplant, Performance & Technical Highlights

The BC-12D is powered by a simple, proven engine designed for reliability and ease of maintenance rather than high output.

With only 65 hp, the aircraft emphasizes gentle performance and efficiency. It performs best at low weights and in calm conditions, where its lightweight airframe can make full use of available power.

Airframe & Flight Characteristics

The BC-12D uses a fabric-covered steel tube fuselage paired with a high-wing configuration, giving it stability, good visibility, and predictable handling at low speeds.

Key characteristics include:

- High-wing layout for stability and visibility
- Fabric-covered tube-and-fabric construction
- Conventional tailwheel landing gear (true taildragger)
- Light wing loading for low stall speeds
- Highly responsive but honest control feedback

It is widely appreciated as a trainer for tailwheel fundamentals due to its straightforward handling and clear aerodynamic behavior.

Cockpit & Interior

The cockpit is minimalistic and focused entirely on core flight information, reflecting its era of design.

- Basic analog flight instruments
- Engine gauges for essential monitoring
- Simple, mechanical control linkages
- Minimal avionics (often upgraded with radio/transponder)
- Excellent external visibility from high-wing design

The layout encourages disciplined flying and situational awareness rather than reliance on automation or advanced avionics.

Maintenance & Operational Profile

The BC-12D is mechanically simple, making it relatively easy and cost-effective to maintain compared to more complex aircraft.

- Fabric covering requires periodic inspection and upkeep
- Continental A65 engine is widely supported and simple to service
- Low system complexity reduces maintenance burden

- Well-suited for owner-assisted maintenance (where permitted)

Attention to fabric condition, tailwheel assembly, and landing gear alignment is key for safe long-term operation.

The Perfect Airplane For

The Taylorcraft BC-12D is best suited for pilots who value traditional flying and low-cost aviation ownership.

It is ideal for:

- Tailwheel training and endorsements
- Vintage and classic aircraft flying
- Recreational weekend flights
- Grass strip and short-field operations
- Pilot skill-building in fundamental stick-and-rudder control

Simple, light, and honest in the air, the BC-12D represents a classic era of aviation where performance was secondary to the flying experience itself.

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Model	**Taylorcraft BC-12D**

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	**Continental A65 (standard configuration)**
Engine Type	**Four-cylinder, air-cooled, horizontally opposed piston engine**
Horsepower	**65 HP**
Propeller Type	**Fixed-pitch**

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	**85–95 mph**
Range	**250–300 miles**

PHOTOGRAPHS

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

EXTERIOR







INTERIOR



HOW TO BID ON THIS LOT

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collectairs.com/auctions/taylorcraft-bc-12d

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