

Flying the Celebrity

Flying the Celebrity biplane can be very difficult to describe since we do not have the same backgrounds to use as reference points. I can tell you that almost everyone that has flown the Celebrity has had a hard time getting the grin off their face. Open cockpit flying is the ultimate for most pilots.

The control inputs are light and response is immediate. You will learn to use your rudder pedals if you are not accustomed to that method of flying. The Celebrity has very good handling qualities. The normal S-turns for taxiing are required for forward visibility.

Takeoff roll is short, even loaded with fuel and passenger. Normal takeoff will vary with your choice of engine, but the prototype with 65 hp got off the ground in 300 feet. The latest factory demo gets off the ground in about 250 feet using a C-90-100 hp. We are flying at 650 feet above sea level. On warm days, when density altitude can reach the 2500 foot range, we still have a short takeoff roll and excellent rate of climb.

Sport Pilot Hot Kits and Homebuilts Magazine's John W. Conrad in the July 1992 issue had this to say about the Celebrity: "Control, harmony, and mix are just right. Rudder, aileron, and elevator match perfectly, and blend into a very natural control feel. The Celebrity has a lot going for it. It is a very easy airplane to fly, yet it is a real biplane in every sense of the word."

The best way to find out is to experience flying the Celebrity for yourself!

