Aircraft purchase checklist

Seller · Records · Escrow · Delivery | English

Phase 1 · Market and counterparty

- ☐ Define mission profile, licence requirements, aircraft category, budget and operating costs.
- ☐ Cross-check make, model, serial number, registration and location against original records.
- ☐ Independently verify seller identity, legal authority and contact details.
- ☐ Check title, finance interests, liens, leases, registration and export restrictions.
- ☐ Document currency, price, taxes, duties, ferry costs, insurance and ancillary expenses.

Phase 2 · Technical and records review

- ☐ Review complete airframe, engine and propeller logbooks and investigate gaps.
- ☐ Confirm airworthiness, registration and applicable maintenance requirements.
- ☐ Check ADs, SBs, life-limited parts, overhaul status and deferred defects.
- ☐ Investigate accident / repair history, corrosion, modifications and measured condition.
- ☐ Commission an independent, type-competent pre-buy inspection and request a written report.
- ☐ Use qualified, authorised pilots for any test flight with appropriate safety checks.

Phase 3 · Secure closing

- ☐ Sign a written aircraft purchase agreement with schedules and inspection contingencies.
- ☐ Independently verify the escrow provider and its ability to handle this transaction.
- ☐ Do not pay newly changed bank details from an unverified email.
- ☐ Agree release, objection, dispute and refund conditions in writing.
- ☐ Arrange delivery, registration, insurance and aircraft ferry requirements.

Phase 4 · Delivery

- ☐ Inspect actual aircraft identity, registration and operating hour readings.
- ☐ Receive original records, keys, equipment and agreed accessories against checklist.
- ☐ Record defects and exceptions with photos in the handover / acceptance certificate.
- ☐ Complete transfer of title and escrow release only after verified conditions are met.
- ☐ Retain signed contracts, payment records, inspection reports and delivery files securely.

Notes

Aircraft / registration	_____
Inspection lead	_____
Outstanding issues	_____
Next action / deadline	_____

Working checklist only. It is not an exhaustive legal, technical or airworthiness assessment. Consider national and international aviation laws and expert advice.