# Pre-owned jet due-diligence checklist

Aircraft / serial: _____

Buyer / reviewer / date: _____

Record evidence, responsible party, deadline and unresolved conditions. Use N/A with a reason. A check mark is not technical acceptance, title clearance or funding approval.

## 1. Mission, identity and acquisition team

| Action / question | Owner / due date | Evidence / status |
|---|---|---|
| Write mission, passengers, airports, annual hours, intended use, ownership and management structure. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Assign technical, legal/title, tax, finance, insurance and operating advisers with distinct scopes. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Confirm exact aircraft/engine/APU identity, equipment, modifications, registration and ownership chain. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Obtain logbooks and status reports; identify gaps, damage/repair history and upcoming calendar/usage events. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Agree independent pre-buy scope, facility, access, cost, deadlines and contractual acceptance/remedy process. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |

Online acquisition checklist | 15 lender-screening questions

## 2. Pre-buy findings and closing remedies [R6-R8]

| Action / question | Owner / due date | Evidence / status |
|---|---|---|
| Register each finding: serial/report, scope, dated estimate, payer, remedy, invoice date and completion evidence. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Distinguish seller repair, price reduction, closing credit and restricted holdback; obtain written contract/escrow terms. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Reconfirm lender-accepted value and actual approved proceeds after findings or price/use/entity changes. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Reconcile deposits once, paid-now costs, closing cash and later repair/ownership reserves. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Confirm title searches, releases and applicable registration/international-interest work with counsel/title provider. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |

Cash check: in the invented $5m / 80% advance example, a $100k price AND accepted-value reduction cuts proceeds by $80k. Closing cash falls only $20k. A later $100k repair still needs separate funding. See the buyer guide for the full reconciliation.

Pre-buy findings guide | Cash-to-close planner

## 3. Maintenance, reserves and downtime [R3-R5]

| Action / question | Owner / due date | Evidence / status |
|---|---|---|
| Have qualified personnel establish applicable inspection program, life-limited status and upcoming work from records. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Verify engine/APU/airframe program contract, enrollment, exclusions, transfer, buy-in/pro-rata obligations and payment timing. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Enter each dated invoice/stage: gross quote, confirmed funds available BY DUE DATE and additional cash costs. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Reconcile opening reserve and start-of-month contributions; inspect every month for deficits, not just year-end. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Combine overlapping downtime months once. Budget replacement lift, ferry and continuing fixed/debt cash; avoid double counting. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |

Workbook v1.1: Maintenance Reserve supports 30 events and 120 months. Later reimbursements do not reduce earlier invoice needs. Continuing downtime cash is separate unless explicitly elected as a reserve draw.

Maintenance and downtime guide | Reserve planner

## 4. Financing, delivery and first ownership period

| Action / question | Owner / due date | Evidence / status |
|---|---|---|
| Compare rate status, fees, advance/value, amortization, maturity, balloon, guarantees, covenants and funding conditions. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| If refinancing, reconcile a dated payoff, current terms, cash/financed fees and same-exit debt; do not infer savings from payment alone. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Confirm insurance, crew/training, operator, delivery location and dates with the responsible advisers. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Obtain required repair/acceptance evidence, releases, loan conditions, escrow reconciliation and records handover. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |
| Assign first-90-day events, subscriptions, reporting and reserve funding; retain unresolved issues with owner and due date. | _____ _____ | _____ _____ |

Refinance calculator | Workbook and companion PDFs

## Sources and scope

Reviewed October 23, 2026. These original planning worksheets combine the sources below with the site's disclosed cash-flow methods. Illustrations are invented. Lender requirements, contracts and qualified adviser conclusions control.

**[R1] AOPA Finance, Should You Refinance After the Fed's Rate Drop? (2024-11-01)**
Historical process/cost discussion; no current rate or universal refinance threshold adopted.
Read source

**[R3] FAA, AC 43-9D (2025-09-22), especially sections 8.1-8.7**
Maintenance record guidance; not a candidate inspection. Except for Form 8130-3 information, it excludes air carrier maintenance programs under 121.367 and 135.425.
Read source

**[R4] eCFR, 14 CFR 91.409, especially (e)-(f)**
Qualified advisers determine applicable inspection programs and life-limited requirements for the aircraft and operation.
Read source

**[R5] JSSI, Engine Maintenance Programs (reviewed 2026-10-23)**
Public program overview. Actual contract, enrollment, coverage, transfer and payment timing require verification.
Read source

**[R6] NBAA Flight Plan, Pre-Purchase Inspections (2022-02-07)**
Public written summary only; podcast audio not reviewed. Historical inventory statements are not current market claims.
Read source

**[R7] AOPA Legal Services Plan, Sample Aircraft Purchase/Sales Agreement (2018)**
Illustrates inspection/deposit alternatives; counsel must tailor the actual jet purchase agreement.
Read source

**[R8] FAA, Aircraft Registration: Clear Title (updated 2023-11-08)**
Recorded security interests and releases; does not guarantee all possible claims are recorded.
Read source