GENERAL

b767 engine run up checklist

Published: September 19, 2026 | Index ID: #-

Introduction

In commercial aviation, the engine run up is a critical phase that verifies the health, performance, and readiness of an aircraft's powerplants before any flight. For the Boeing 767 family—whether the 767 300, 767 400, or the newer 767 300ER—executing a meticulous run up procedure is essential for ensuring that the engines operate within their design limits and that any potential issues are identified and resolved early. This article dives deep into the **b767 engine run up checklist**, breaking down each step, explaining its purpose, and offering practical tips for pilots, maintenance crews, and flight operations personnel. Whether you're a seasoned Boeing 767 pilot or a new crew member, a solid grasp of the run up process can enhance safety, reduce downtime, and keep the aircraft on schedule.

Understanding Engine Run Up

Why Run Up Is Essential

Engine run up serves several vital functions:

- Performance Verification – Confirms that thrust, fuel flow, and other key parameters are within spec.
- System Checks – Validates the integrity of fuel, oil, and electrical systems.
- Early Fault Detection – Identifies anomalies such as irregular vibrations, abnormal temperatures, or sensor errors before the aircraft takes to the air.
- Regulatory Compliance – Meets FAA and EASA requirements that mandate run up for certain engine types and after maintenance.

When to Perform a Run Up

Run up is typically required:

- After major engine maintenance or overhaul.
- When there's a change in engine configuration (e.g., new engine type or component).
- When a fault is reported or suspected.
- As part of a routine preflight check on certain airlines' schedules.

Key Conditions for a Successful Run Up

To ensure accurate results, run up must occur under controlled environmental and operational conditions:

- Temperature – Ambient temperature should be within the engine's operating envelope.
- Altitude – Conduct the run up at sea level or at a known altitude with corrected engine performance data.
- Wind – Minimal crosswind or tailwind to avoid aerodynamic interference.
- Run Up Area – A clear, flat strip with adequate distance from other aircraft and obstructions.
- Instrumentation – All cockpit and engine monitoring systems must be calibrated and functioning.

Key Components of the B767 Engine Run Up Checklist

Pre Run Up Preparation

1. Review the Aircraft's Maintenance Records – Confirm that all required maintenance tasks have been

completed and documented.

2. Verify Engine Health Status – Check the Engine Health Monitoring System (EHMS) for any pending alerts or warnings.
3. Confirm Fuel Quality – Ensure the fuel meets the specifications for the current flight and that the tanks are free of water or contaminants.
4. Check Oil Levels and Quality – Verify that the oil quantity and condition meet the manufacturer's specifications.
5. Set Up Ground Power and Air Conditioning – Ensure that the aircraft's systems are powered and that cabin temperature is within operational limits.

Engine Start

Before the engine run up, the engines must be started safely:

1. Confirm Engine Status Lights – All engine start lights should indicate readiness.
2. Engage the Start Switch – Follow the standard engine start procedure for the specific engine model (GE CF6 or Pratt & Whitney PW4000).
3. Monitor Start Parameters – Watch for correct RPM rise, temperature, and oil pressure.
4. Record Start Data – Log RPM, temperature, and fuel flow for comparison against baseline values.

Power Up

Power up involves bringing the engines to a specific thrust level and monitoring various parameters:

1. Set Engine Power to 20% Thrust – This is the typical starting point for run up.
2. Increase to 50% Thrust – Gradually raise thrust while observing engine temperature, oil pressure, and fuel flow.
3. Advance to 80% Thrust – This is the maximum test thrust level for the run up.
4. Maintain 80% Thrust for 5 Minutes – Allow the engine to stabilize and collect data.
5. Record All Parameters – Capture RPM, temperature, pressure, vibration, and fuel flow readings at each thrust level.

Monitoring and Data Collection

During the run up, continuous monitoring ensures that all systems are functioning correctly:

- Engine RPM and N1/N2 values.
- Oil and fuel temperatures.
- Oil and fuel pressures.
- Vibration levels and acoustic signatures.
- Electrical system status, including generator output.

Troubleshooting and Corrective Actions

If any parameter deviates from the expected range, follow these steps:

1. Identify the Fault – Use the EHMS and cockpit alerts to pinpoint the issue.
2. Consult the Quick Reference Handbook (QRH) – Follow the prescribed procedures for the specific fault.
3. Perform Corrective Actions – Adjust fuel flow, change engine settings, or conduct a partial restart as necessary.
4. Re run the Test – After corrections, repeat the affected thrust level to confirm resolution.
5. Document the Incident – Log the fault, actions taken, and final results.

Step by Step Run Up Procedure

The following ordered list outlines a typical run up sequence for a Boeing 767 engine. While the exact steps may vary slightly between airlines or engine types, the core principles remain the same.

1. Pre Run Up Checklist\n\nVerify crew assignments and roles.
2. Confirm all preflight checks have been completed.
3. Set the ground power and air conditioning.

- Engage the start switch for the first engine.
- Monitor RPM rise to 1,200 RPM.
- Check oil pressure and temperature.
- Repeat for the second engine.

- Adjust thrust levers to 20%.
- Monitor RPM, temperature, and fuel flow.
- Log baseline data.

- Gradually raise thrust to 50%.
- Observe engine temperatures and pressures.
- Check vibration levels.

- Set thrust levers to 80%.
- Maintain for 5 minutes.
- Collect data on all parameters.

- Compare collected data against baseline charts.
- Identify any anomalies.
- Document findings.

- Reduce thrust to idle.
- Engage the engine shutdown switch.
- Confirm engine shutdown lights.

- Debrief crew and maintenance.
- Update maintenance records.
- Prepare for the next flight.

Common Issues and How to Address Them

Engine run up can reveal a variety of issues. Below are some typical problems and recommended actions.

- Excessive Engine Temperature\n\nCheck for high fuel flow or low air intake.
- Inspect the engine’s cooling system.
- Adjust fuel flow or throttle settings.

- Verify oil level and filter condition.
- Check oil pump operation.
- Replace the filter if clogged.

- Inspect fan blades and compressor stages.
- Use vibration analysis tools to locate the source.
- Replace or balance components as needed.

- Check fuel pumps for proper operation.
- Inspect fuel lines for leaks or blockages.
- Verify fuel metering unit accuracy.

- Check generator output and voltage regulation.
- Inspect wiring and connectors.
- Replace faulty components.

Safety Precautions

While engine run up is a routine activity, it still carries inherent risks. Adhering to safety protocols protects both crew and equipment.

- Maintain a Safe Distance – Keep a minimum of 1,000 feet from other aircraft and ground personnel.
- Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Wear safety glasses, gloves, and ear protection when working near the engines.
- Follow Hazardous Materials Procedures – Handle fuel and oil with care to prevent spills.
- Ensure Proper Grounding – Ground the aircraft to prevent static discharge during engine start.
- Communicate Clearly – Use standardized radio procedures and hand signals to coordinate with ground crew.

Tips for an Efficient Run Up

Maximizing efficiency during the run up can reduce downtime and improve aircraft availability.

- Pre Plan the Sequence – Create a detailed run up plan that includes timing, personnel assignments, and contingency actions.
- Use Digital Checklists – Employ electronic flight bags (EFBs) or tablet-based checklists for real time updates and reminders.
- Leverage Automation – Use the aircraft's engine monitoring system to auto log data and highlight deviations.
- Conduct Parallel Tasks – While the engines are running, perform non time critical maintenance checks.
- Review Historical Data – Compare current run up results with past data to spot trends and prevent recurring issues.

Conclusion

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