



FAR PART 43

PART 43 – MAINTENANCE, PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE, REBUILDING, AND ALTERATION

43.1 Applicability

1. This part prescribes rules governing the maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding, and alteration of any aircraft having a U.S. airworthiness certificate as well as the airframe, aircraft engine(s), propeller(s), appliances, and component parts of such aircraft.
2. This part does not apply to any aircraft for which the FAA has issued an experimental certificate, unless the FAA has previously issued a different kind of airworthiness certificate for that aircraft.
3. This part applies to certain aircraft issued a special airworthiness certificate in the light-sport category.

43.3 Persons Authorized to Perform Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance, Rebuilding, and Alterations

1. A person who holds a pilot certificate (e.g., private pilot) may perform preventive maintenance on any airplane owned or operated by that pilot which is not used in air carrier services.

43.7 Persons Authorized to Approve Aircraft, Airframes, Aircraft Engines, Propellers, Appliances, or Component Parts for Return to Service after Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance, Rebuilding, or Alteration

1. To approve the airplane for return to service after preventive maintenance was done by a pilot, the pilot must hold at least a private pilot certificate.
2. To approve an aircraft in the light-sport category for return to service after preventative maintenance is done, the pilot must hold at least a sport pilot certificate.

43.9 Maintenance Records

1. After preventive maintenance has been performed, the signature, certificate number, the kind of certificate held by the person approving the work, the date the work was performed, and a description of the work must be entered in the aircraft maintenance records.

Appendix A. Major Alterations, Major Repairs, and Preventive Maintenance

1. Preventive maintenance means simple or minor preservation operations and the replacement of small standard parts not involving complex assembly operations.
2. A complete list of operations that are classified as preventive maintenance is included in the complete regulation. Some common examples include
 - a. Removal, installation, and repair of landing gear tires,
 - b. Replenishing hydraulic fluid,
 - c. Servicing landing gear struts, and
 - d. Replacing landing light bulbs