



## Half Empty, Half Full

Since aviation's earliest days, pilots want to know exactly how much fuel is in the airplane's tanks. In 1928, Pioneer Instruments advertised its \$50 round fuel level gauge (\$90 for the vertical style) as a must-have. "By knowing exactly how much fuel is available at all times," notes a catalog description, "it is unnecessary to carry a large excess 'just to be on the safe side' and still there is no chance of unexpectedly 'running out of gas' with the consequent forced landing and possible crash."

Promising "no chance" is not a guarantee, but the fuel gauge is a cockpit panel standard. These fuel gauges stocked in EAA's Attic came from a variety of aircraft, including GA and military, foreign and American, from the 1920s to 1980s. Some are simple to read—Empty to Full with large numbers in between. Others wear a bright mask that screams for attention, and still others are quite busy. Which one would you put on your panel?

—Kathleen L. Witman