



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Watkins, Colorado	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN02LA072
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	June 30, 2002, 08:11 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N6283U
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Mooney M20C	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The purpose of the flight was to practice touch-and-go landings. The pilot said he "forgot to put the gear down" and landed wheels up, resulting in substantial damage to the airplane.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to use the pre-landing checklist, resulting in an inadvertent wheels up landing.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: WHEELS UP LANDING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

### Findings

1. (C) CHECKLIST - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) WHEELS UP LANDING - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

On June 30, 2002, at 0811 mountain daylight time, a Mooney M20C, N6283U, owned and operated by the pilot, was substantially damaged when it landed gear up at Front Range Airport (FTG), Watkins, Colorado. The private pilot, the sole occupant aboard, was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed for the local personal flight being conducted under Title 14 CFR Part 91. The flight originated from Front Range Airport at 0755.

In a telephone interview and reiterated in his accident report, the pilot said that the purpose of the flight was to practice touch-and-go landings. He said he "forgot to put the gear down" when he made his first approach to runway 26 and landed wheels up. Damage consisted of a bent propeller, scraped panels underneath the airplane, a broken antenna, and bent ribs.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	55, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 14, 2001
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	139 hours (Total, all aircraft), 59 hours (Total, this make and model), 85 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Mooney	<b>Registration:</b>	N6283U
<b>Model/Series:</b>	M20C	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	2122
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	October 9, 2001 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2575 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	68.6 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2528.5 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-A1D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Roger L. Keithley	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	DEN,5431 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	9 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	07:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	310°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	6 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	9 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	220°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.17 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	23°C / 1°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Haze		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Watkins, CO (FTG )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	Unknown
<b>Departure Time:</b>	07:55 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Front Range FTG	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	5512 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	26	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	8000 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Touch and go

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	39.786388,-104.549446

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Scott, Arnold
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	John R Botterill; FAA Flight Standards District Office; Denver, CO
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	January 16, 2003
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=55183">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=55183</a>

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