

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cessna 152, G-BTIK	
No & type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1970	
Date & Time (UTC):	19 July 2006 at 1135 hrs	
Location:	Andrewsfield, Essex	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nosewheel collapsed, engine and propeller damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Student pilot	
Commander's Age:	42 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	40 hours (of which 40 were on type) Last 90 days - 8 hours Last 28 days - 4 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and subsequent AAIB enquiries	

History of the flight

Following a series of circuit exercises with her flying instructor, the student pilot was making her first solo flight; the flying instructor observed the flight from the ground. The visibility was good, the wind was from the east at approximately 11 kt, and Runway 09 was in use.

The flight appeared to progress normally until the aircraft touched down in a nose-low attitude and bounced. Two further bounces followed before the nose landing gear broke off and the propeller struck the ground, causing damage to the propeller, engine and firewall. The aircraft came to a halt on the runway and the pilot vacated the aircraft without injury. There was no fire.

The student pilot had taken flying lessons over a period of some two years, at two flying schools, and had flown regularly with the instructor who sent her solo. The instructor reported that they had flown a number of circuits prior to the solo flight, all to a safe standard. These circuits included three go-arounds and practice in recovery from a bounced landing. The instructor commented that she believed that the student was fully ready for a first solo, and that she could not have done more to prepare the student for a first solo flight.