



Charlie Taylor
1868 - 1956

Inducted 2000

Charlie Taylor built the engines that were used on the early Wright airplanes. He began working with the Wrights by serving as the bicycle shop repairman while the brothers were off on their flight experiments. When the experiments had progressed sufficiently so that the specifications for the airplane engine could be determined, it was decided that a motor having 8 horsepower and weighing 180 pounds was needed. After attempts to find such an engine failed, Wilbur, Orville and Charlie decided to build their own. Much of the machine work was done by Charlie Taylor, who between Christmas 1902 and June 1903 built a 13 horsepower engine weighting a mere 130 pounds at a time when internal combustion engine technology was in its infancy. Obviously, the engine worked as planned, the experiment was a success and Charlie Taylor earned a spot in the honor role of aviation pioneers.

*The Dayton Region Walk of Fame is located on both sides of West Third Street between Shannon and Broadway streets and on Williams Street in the Wright Dunbar Historic District of Dayton, Ohio.
More information can be found at daytonregionwalkoffame.org*