

FAQ's



ON TOP OF THE WORLD
RC FLYERS



OCALA, FLORIDA

IS IT EASY TO LEARN?

Success depends on the student's aptitude, preparation before flying (ground school), the teacher, and the training aircraft. Good students can fly solo in as little as a few weeks with enough practice. You can be flying with your instructor's assistance on the first flight.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I CRASH?

Crashes happen even to the top competition fliers, but the good news is they rarely occur. It adds to the hobby's excitement and creates an interesting conversation with your flying friends when they do happen. Most aircraft can be re-built.

WHERE CAN I GET ONE?

The local hobby shop often stocks radio control aircraft for beginners. These aircraft can also be found online. Consult your instructor before purchasing equipment.

WHAT TYPE OF BATTERY DOES IT USE?

More and more modern airplanes use electric motors instead of the traditional glow engines. These motors are powered by lithium polymer (lipo) batteries. For now, stick with the airplane manufacturers recommended battery. In addition to electric-powered airplanes, all RC models use a battery to power the radio receiver and servos.

I HAVE MY PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSE. SO IT IS A LOT EASIER, RIGHT?

Not always. When you sit in the pilot seat of a full-size airplane, you have the sensations of three dimensional motion and "out the windscreen" visuals. With an RC airplane, you have none of those sensory inputs. The controls are intuitive when the airplane is moving away from you, but when it turns around: some of the controls are reversed! Through training and practice, you develop the skills needed: dedicated time on the flight simulator is beneficial. That's part of the fun and challenge of RC flying. Before long you simply won't need to think about it and flying will be automatic and second nature.

MY GRANDFATHER WAS A PILOT. CAN I GET A SCALE MODEL OF THE BOMBER HE FLEW?

Scale aircraft are generally fascinating to look at but are challenging to build and fly. Models of scale aircraft typically have a higher wing load than trainers do, so it's best to get the experience first. Once you have the flying skill, the sky is the limit!

CAN I FLY ANYWHERE, WHENEVER I FEEL LIKE IT?

Like all fun things, a few have been irresponsible bringing about rules and regulations. Drones, due to their popularity, low costs and ease flying have caught the eye of the FAA and law enforcement. Our hobby is currently going through a transition of pilot accountability. In the near future, flying in the "National Airspace" will require that your aircraft "identify" itself and you, the operator. Or you fly at a federally Recognized site such as a club field like ours. So, no-the only place you're allowed to fly within the community is at our field.

DO I NEED INSURANCE – WHAT'S MY LIABILITY?

Yes, as a responsible future pilot, you need insurance to protect yourself, others, their property, and our community. This is easily accomplished by becoming member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, (AMA). It's a requirement to becoming a member of our club and the current price of \$75 a year is very reasonable. For more information visit www.modelaircraft.org.

THE TAKEAWAY.

This hobby, like most, has a learning curve. Your aptitude, dedication, and determination may result in a lifetime love affair with all things that fly. Consider that most 190+ members have been lifelong hobbyists who planned for retirement in this unique community singularly for the opportunity to join the club and fly at On Top of the World Communities. The hobby is a direct descendent of the very birth of aviation with a rich history of pioneers. Discover your inner pioneer – you won't be disappointed.