

Flight Training Phases and Your Training Log

Marymoor R/C Club, Redmond, WA
AMA Charter 1610



Training Phases

- Your instruction will happen in 5 phases, similar to instruction in real airplanes
- You will advance to the next phase when you and the instructor think you are ready
 - Phase 1 – Pre-flight and Taxi
 - Phase 2 – Basic orientation and the Traffic Pattern
 - Phase 3 – Approach and Landing
 - Phase 4 – Takeoff
 - Phase 5 – Advanced orientation and Aerobatics

Training Log and Instruction Phases

STUDENT NAME: _____

MAR/C FLIGHT TRAINING LOG

D = Demonstrated P = Practiced X = Proficient

Phase 1 – Pre Flight and Taxi

PHASE 1 - PRE-FLIGHT AND TAXI

Pre-flight inspection by student															
Before Takeoff Checklist - B A T T C *															
Taxi															
Callouts															

Phase 2 – Basic Orientation and Pattern

PHASE 2 - BASIC ORIENTATION and PATTERN

Trim for Level Flight															
L-R Wing Rock flying toward pilot															
Level Turns, High Oval Pattern															
Climbing Turns (by adding power)															
Descending Turns (by reducing power)															
Rectangular High Pattern															
Rectangular Low Pattern															
Figure 8's (introduction)															

Phase 3 – Approach and Landing

PHASE 3 - APPROACH AND LANDING

Slow Flight, Stall, and Recovery															
Trim at approach speed															
Demo appch pattern visual cues - Left															
Demo appch pattern visual cues - Right															
Stabilized Approach															
Go-Around - controlled, straight ahead															
Flare and Touchdown from Left															
Flare and Touchdown from Right															
Approach in Crosswind															
Dead Stick Landing															

Phase 4 – Takeoff

PHASE 4 - TAKEOFF

Straight line on takeoff roll															
Controlled rotation and liftoff															
Straight ahead climb															
Takeoff in Crosswind															

Phase 5 – Advanced Orientation

PHASE 5 - ADVANCED ORIENTATION

Figure 8's with good altitude control															
Demo ways to regain orientation															
Loop															
Immelman turn & Half Cuban-eight															
Roll															

Flight Number >>

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DATE

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INSTRUCTOR INITIALS

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* B A T T C : Battery (transmitter), Antenna position, Trim, Timer ready, Controls

MAR/C
R/C FLIGHT TRAINING
STUDENT
LOGBOOK

Student Name _____

AMA# _____ FAA# _____

Phone Number _____

Version Information

Version	Author	Date	Description
1.5	Brian Kelly	April 2017	Aligned Flight Training Syllabus with new flight log. Misc corrections and refinements
1.6	Brian Kelly	4/19/2017	Misc edits, repaired links, to prepare for website update
1.7	Brian Kelly	4/26/2017	Corrections and misc edits
1.8	Brian Kelly	9/28/2017	Updated Proficiency Check and misc edits
2.0	Brian Kelly	Nov 2018	Broken into separate standalone chapters for quicker access on the website.
3.0	Brian Kelly	April 2023	Updated to reflect club-owned fleet of electric training planes and miscellaneous improvements

Notes for Instructors: 5 phases

Phase 1 – Pre-flight and Taxi

Phase 2 – Basic orientation and the Traffic Pattern

Phase 3 – Approach and Landing

Phase 4 – Takeoff

Phase 5 – Advanced orientation and Aerobatics

Perception is that takeoffs are "easy" and low risk.

- Experience showed many accidents when inexperienced students pitched up excessively on takeoff to the point where instructor cannot stop a crash.
- Takeoff was moved to Phase 4 so it is done after practicing many missed approaches.

Phase 5 exists because students are sometimes soloed without learning to:

- recognize they are disoriented
- decide to do something about it
- have tools to diagnose the problem (rock wings)
- have skills to recover (aerobatics)

Notes for Instructors

The 5 phases should be taught in order, but some overlap is inevitable, and OK

Before flying,

- ask the student which phase they are in. If they don't know, familiarize them with the phases in the log sheet.
- Ask the student if they have read the ground school material for the phase they are working on. If not, encourage them to do so.
- Agree on specific maneuvers to work on during the flight

Instructors

Please read the Ground School material, so that:

- You and the student both understand the phases
- You use common terminology
- The student doesn't feel lost when they get a different instructors
- You can find areas we can change and improve!

Notes for Instructors

- Use ONLY the transmitter and buddy box assigned to your specific airplane.
- Do not change any settings in the transmitters, except trim if needed
- Do not use buddy boxes or transmitters assigned to other trainers.
- This keeps our fleet stable and consistent with far fewer problems.