

Your Next Airplane, and What you Should Learn, After You Solo

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



Get ready for your Next Airplane

- Fly with your trainer until you feel you have mastered it
- Pay special attention to stabilized approaches
- Get proficient with simple aerobatics

Choosing your 2nd Airplane

- Ask other pilots for their advice
- Choose a low-wing with some dihedral, or a high wing with less dihedral than your trainer
- Choose a slightly faster and more aerobatic airplane
- Park-zone T-28 is a good candidate
- Feel free to try a tailwheel airplane. Steering will be more challenging on takeoff, but the landing gear will be more robust.
- Avoid retractable landing gear. It is more fragile and more expensive. At this stage, you can still expect hard landings.
- 3D aerobatic planes, fighters, and ducted fans are good choices for that 3rd or 4th airplane

Get help before you fly the next new airplane

- Ask other pilots to look over the plane before first flight
- Consider having a more experienced pilot do the first flight to get the plane trimmed properly

Check out the Aero 101 Presentations

Part 1 (June 2017 Club Meeting)

Before takeoff

- Will this plane be stable?

Takeoff

- How does the prop affect the airplane?
- Do I need right thrust?
- Wind
- Is the “downwind turn” a myth?

Cruise

- How to fine-tune the cg
- Do I need down thrust?

General Handling

- Plane snaps out of a tight turn
- Does dihedral help or hinder me?
- Won't respond to aileron when slow
- Unstable or too sensitive?

Part 2 (Feb 2018 Club Meeting)

Approach

- How can I slow down safely?
- Should I re-trim for approach?
- Use elevator or thrust?
- What will flaps do?

Judge what a new plane will be like

- Wing Loading and stall speed
- Power loading
- Aspect Ratio
- Servo size

Part 3 (November, 2018 Club Meeting)

- Programming your Transmitter to make the Airplane Easier and More Enjoyable to Fly

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