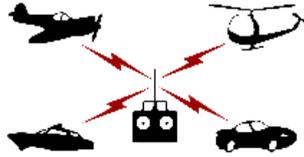


MICK CHARLES MODELS

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Beginner's Aircraft.

Park Flyers

A park flyer is a small aircraft, typically around one metre span and usually made of foam. They can be flown in a small area and are slow and light enough that they will do no harm to anything they hit.

Some park flyers are harder to fly than others. Fighter aircraft like Spitfires tend to be unstable and have higher stall speeds than are ideal for learning to fly.

We also think it is important for aircraft to use control surfaces (elevator, rudder etc.) to alter the attitude of the plane. Some cheap aircraft use motor thrust to do this which leads to very poor control.

The aircraft below all have a high set wing for stability and a light wing loading for good control at low speeds. They all use rudder and elevator controls for precise control response.

HOBBYZONE SUPER CUB



Of mostly foam construction and with a 4 channel 2.4 ghz R/C it comes almost ready to fly out of the box. Spares are available from stock if needed.

HOBBYZONE CUB PACKAGE DEAL

Hobbyzone Cub inc 3 channel R/C, lipo battery and 12V charger	£149.99
Total:	£149.99

The Super Cub is easy enough to fly for a complete beginner and at 1.2m span it can fly in light winds. It also has the SAFE gyro stabilisation system that not only makes the aircraft easier to fly but will return the aircraft to level flight for you if the controls are centred A lipo battery is included as standard.

RIPMAX ZEPHYR



The airframe comes built and covered and just some final assembly to fit the R/C is needed to get it flying.

ZEPHYR PACKAGE DEAL

Zephyr ARTF aircraft	£121.99
Saturn 6 radio control (inc 2 mini servos)	£64.99
11.1V 1600 mah lipo battery	£21.50
Absima LC-1 charger	£11.99
Propeller	£2.99
Total:	£223.46

The Ripmax Zephyr is a stable wooden electric aircraft and is ideal for those who don't like the look of foam aircraft. At 1.57m span it is a little larger than the other aircraft on this page.

J PERKINS GAMMA PRO



The Gamma Pro is a trainer that can be programmed to suit the ability of the pilot. In beginner mode it will restrict the maximum bank angle that can be achieved and will return the aircraft to level flight if the controls are centred. In more advanced modes the limits are relaxed to allow manoeuvres to be performed but beginner mode can be reinstated at the flick of a switch.

The Gamma Pro features tough EPO foam construction and comes almost ready to fly out of the box. Spares are available from stock if needed. It has ailerons fitted as well as the normal elevator, rudder and throttle controls. This lets it be much more manoeuvrable when in the advanced modes.

J PERKINS GAMMA PRO PACKAGE DEAL

Gamma Pro inc R/C, lipo battery and mains or 12V charger	£159.99
Total:	£159.99

Trainer aircraft

The ideal beginner's model is known as a "trainer", an aircraft whose main characteristics include a wing mounted above the fuselage for stability and a large wingspan of over 1.6m. This allows trainer aircraft to fly in windier conditions than park flyers. However because these aircraft are heavier and faster they could do more damage if they hit something. So we would always recommend not trying to fly a trainer without tuition. Best bet is to join one of the clubs as shown below.

These aircraft come largely pre built, requiring just a little final assembly to join the major assemblies and install items like the engine and radio control.

The radio control systems included in these deals are equipped with a "buddy box" system. This allows two transmitters to be linked via a cable, with a master switch on one allowing the instructor to take over control of the other transmitter instantly if the pupil makes a mistake.

We recommend beginners bring their models back to the shop prior to their first flight so that we may give it a free pre-flight check.

ST MODELS DISCOVERY



The Discovery from ST Models is a large ready to fly trainer plane, with a wingspan of 1.46m. Generally, the bigger the model, the better it can cope with windy conditions. This aircraft is more aerobatic but not quite as stable as the Cub, so ideally some instruction would be recommended for beginners at first.

Some minor assembly is required, mainly just screwing the main assemblies together and applying the stickers.

BLACK HORSE PACKAGE DEAL

Discovery electric trainer	£121.99
Futaba 6K radio control	£179.99
11.1V lipo battery (2200 mah)	£17.99
Charger	£12.99
Total:	£332.96



The 67.3 inch (1.71 m) wingspan Wot Trainer is an engine powered trainer that has full colour instructions and requires only a few hours of assembly. Unlike similar models is no gluing required to finish it. All the major parts of the airframe (fuselage, wings, tailplane etc.) are pre-built and already covered in heatshrink film. The Wot Trainer also features options for tricycle and tail dragger undercarriage layouts.

As well as being very easy to fly, the Wot Trainer has some scope for aerobatics once the basics of flying have been mastered.

WOT TRAINER PACKAGE DEAL

Wot trainer ARTF aircraft	£116.99
Futaba 6K radio control inc 4 servos	£209.99
SC 46 engine	£76.99
Charger	£39.00
Total:	£442.97

Local Flying Clubs

You should not attempt to learn to fly large aircraft without tuition. Unless you know an experienced flyer who can teach, you will need to contact a professional instructor (ask in the shop for details) or better still, join one of the many local flying clubs. Clubs have their own private flying fields and experienced instructors. The local clubs are listed here:

Esher Club	www.edmfc.org		
Epsom Club	www.mjp.co.uk/erfc	Graham Martin	07973 894657
Elmbridge Club	website.lineone.net/~elmbridgemc	Tony Handley	020 8330 2891
Croydon Club	www.camfc.co.uk	Geoff Potts	01883 627470
Leatherhead Club	www.leatherheadmfc.org.uk		
Epsom Downs Club	www.edmac.org.uk		
Surrey R/C Club	http://surreyrcc.bmfa.org		

Additional Items

The aircraft deals shown above can be altered to your taste.

Computer radio controls like the Futaba 10J are also more suitable for flying helicopters or more complex aircraft. Upgrading to one now might save you having to buy a second R/C later for helicopter flying.

Flight simulator software allows you to practice flying a "virtual" R/C aircraft on your PC. While a useful aid for learning to fly, they are not a substitute for being taught by an expert. The Realflight Basic simulator requires you to use your own R/C transmitter, which is linked to the PC through a USB cable.

For electric models a programmable charger like the Sigma EQ Touch may be useful. With this you can charge up many different types of battery, view the state of charge of your battery and can charge from 12V as well as the mains.

ALTERNATIVES TO DEAL ITEMS

Realflight Basic R/C flight sim for PC	£74.99
Sigma EQ Touch charger	£61.50
Futaba 10J radio control (no servos)	£324.99