FLYING FOR FUN



Flying a drone is great fun and a rewarding hobby. To keep everyone safe, and to make sure we safely share the airspace with everything else that flies, we have some simple laws that drone users need to follow.

From 31 December 2020 the rules for flying drones will be the same in the UK and all European Union Member States. The rules don't apply if you are flying indoors or have a toy drone. This must have been sold as, and clearly look like, a toy.

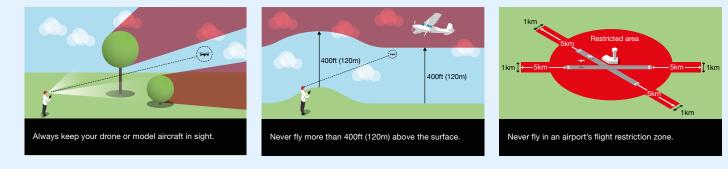
They are based on the risk of the flight – where you fly, proximity to other people and the size and weight of your drone.

You will probably be using the new Open category of rules which are intended for low-risk drone flights, for example because you are flying a lightweight drone or in the countryside. There is also a Specific category for higher risk flights such as flying a drone over an urban area. To fly in this category you will need approval from the Civil Aviation Authority.

The same rules also apply if you are flying at night.

Open category

You need to follow the drone and model aircraft code. Some of the key rules are:



i And always remember that you are responsible for your actions while flying

Registration and flyer ID

If your drone has a camera (unless it is a toy) or weighs 250g or more then you need to register with the CAA. You need to renew this registration every year.

Anyone flying a drone 250g or more needs to pass a test and get a flyer ID from the CAA. If you already have a flyer ID that is still valid, you don't need to re-do the test until it expires, although you are required to keep up to date with the new regulations.

More info at Register-drones.caa.co.uk

Minimum age to fly

In most cases you must be at least 12 years old to fly a drone on your own*.

You can fly if you are under 12, but you must be supervised by someone 16 or over and both of you must have passed the flyer ID test.

Privacy

Wherever you fly your drone, consider the privacy of others. The Information Commissioner publishes advice at https://ico.org.uk/your_data-matters/drones/

*If you are under 12 and flying on your own then the drone must either be: privately built and be less than 250g *or* a toy and marked as a Class C0 drone



The UK Dronecode is published by the Civil Aviation Authority to assist drone users in flying safely.

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For further information please visit: caa.co.uk/drones

dronesafe.uk

You are responsible for each flight. Legal responsibility lies with you. The Police can track illegal drone flights and trace offenders. Failure to fly responsibly could result in criminal prosecution. To report drone misuse please call the Police on 101. Always call 999 in an emergency. **Do make sure you are adequately insured**.