

A purchasing guide for newcomers to the fascinating sport of model flying
from

BLACKBURN AND DISTRICT MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB



Dear Newcomer,

We have compiled the following guidance sheet to assist you in making the right purchases and hopefully steer you towards a rewarding hobby in the future.

B.D.M.A.C. Who are we?

BDMAC is one of the longest established model flying clubs in the country, with approx. 80 members engaged in model flying activities. We are registered with the British Model Flying Association and have a long history of flying aeroplanes locally at Pleasington.

Club members are able to fly 3 days each week and every day during both local and public holidays. Sunday afternoon being the best time for newcomers to attend. We actively encourage the BMFA achievement scheme where novices receive tuition from qualified or approved instructors on a voluntary basis.

Membership fees include registration with the BMFA and the mandatory insurance required for use at our site.

So where do we start?

The route to success is not always an easy one and you must be prepared to learn many new skills - model flying embraces much of today's (and yesterdays) technologies, so here is what we advise as a sound starting point:

1.) Control line flying.

- a) A suitable training model and engine combination .the model shop will advise you here, but if in doubt seek advice from the club.

2.) Fixed wing radio control

- a) Good reliable and strong training aircraft is needed e.g. ***Tutor 40, Bobcat or Ripmax Protech Trainer*** . There are a good number of electric trainers as well now.
- b) Good reliable no-fuss engine e.g. ***0 S LA46, Irvine 53, ASP 52 Glowplug engine.***
- c) Good reliable radio control system e.g. ***6 Channel Futaba, Sanwa, JR, Spectrum etc***
We leave this to your personal tastes and budget however **please note that the set must include welded rechargeable batteries** and use an ***ODD*** frequency number ***on 35 MHz. Or 2.4 GHz is now accepted***
- d) Flight accessories are needed too e.g. ***Glow starter, fuel, propellers etc.***

3.) *Helicopters.*

This is a very specialized branch of aeromodelling and tends to be more technically demanding. Experience has shown that the following equipment has a good reliability factor.

- a) OS engines are to be preferred - good reliability.
- b) Raptor, Shuttle, Moskito, Vario and Kyosho helicopter kits are preferred. On electric ask for advise, not all suitable for leaning.
- c) JR or Futaba *computerized* Heli radio sets on an ***EVEN*** channel number operating on **35 MHz** - JR are somewhat easier to set up. **Or 2.4 GHz is now accepted. Please note that the set must include welded rechargeable batteries.**
- d) Good quality proprietary gyro system.
- e) Starting accessories as required - similar to fixed wing above.

So what now ?

We welcome all prospective newcomers to attend our flying sessions where we will be happy to discuss your requirements and answer any questions you may have about joining the club.

Committee members may be found at Pleasington on most Sunday afternoons throughout the year - or you may wish to contact the membership secretary Mr. Ken Griffiths at 79 Chetwyn Avenue, Bromley Cross, Bolton, Lancashire.

We wish you every success with your chosen branch of the sport and look forward to meeting you in due course.

Access is in level ground which is suitable for the disabled with car parking adjacent to the site.

Flying at Pleasington is strictly controlled by the host club and restricted to certain days of the week. Novice pilots must be accompanied by suitable club instructors.

Where next ?

Well, the sky really is the limit! After basic training you can undertake a more advanced test which will allow you to take part in organized displays and national competitions.

Alternatively you could choose to become an instructor and pass on your skills to other novices - the choice is yours.

Happy Landings ! From All of the committee , B.D.M.A.C 2009.
Club contact .Mr. K Griffiths, Bolton. Tel. 01204 306850 Evenings