

Pre-flight checklist: before every flight



Data Scribe: Read this checklist aloud, asking for the confirm / data from Spotter & Pilot.

Spotter/Safety Lead:

- Weather conditions of flying area:**
(Cloud Cover (%), Temperature, wind direction, speed, variability, humidity (optional))
- Hazards present?** (yes/no/describe)
- Takeoff/landing area established?**

Investigator Lead: science focused checklist:

TBD by the investigation

Pilot:

- Drone checks:**
Spin your props - secured? Check for loose parts. Battery is charged & connected. (opt) Payload secured?
- Transmitter checks:**
Battery is charged, Joy-sticks work.
- Instrument checks:**
Camera: Connected to power? SD card inserted? Sufficient storage available?
Other sensors & equipment: Power on? memory card inserted? Sensor working? Secured to drone? Meter-circle in place?

Everyone:

- Step back 5x5 for safety**

Before you fly

Safety - Step Back 5x5 for Safety

- STOP**
 - Put your drone down.
- Take 5 steps back.**
- Look around for 5 seconds.**
 - Look behind you too!
 - IDENTIFY & ASSESS hazards,
 - MAKE CHANGES if needed , SAFELY – complete your flight

Instructor: Data scribe - see anything?
Spotter- see anything?
Pilot - See anything?

Stop to address anything you see.

Instructor:
Team, start your flight!



Time to fly!

Data scribe:

1. Start a stopwatch (app)
2. Call out the route using the investigation plan.
3. If using FPV, take photos
4. Record data
5. Keep an eye on the drone too

Spotter:

1. Move around so you can always see the drone.
2. Continually scan the flight and ground areas for potential hazards.

Pilot (s):

1. **Announce out loud – “CLEAR PROPS”.**
2. Make sure the throttle (left stick) is all the way down then turn on the transmitter.
3. Back away 3 or 4 steps (or to a safe distance).
4. Bind & calibrate drone & take test photo and video
5. **Announce out loud – “TAKE OFF”.**
6. Launch drone
7. Keep facing the quadcopter the entire time.
8. Follow the data scribe’s route directions
 - Maintain a safe altitude when flying over buildings / obstacles
 - Keep a direct line of sight at all times when flying

Flight data sheet

Session Number:

Date:

Instructor:

Location: Address/City/State , football field,
south playground etc.)

Describe your site - Flat/slope? trees - shrubs

GPS location (optional): lat, long, elevation

Drone & transmitter information: Make /
model / battery type & number

Weather conditions: Cloud Cover (%),
Temperature, wind direction, speed,
variability, sun direction, humidity (optional)

Potential dangers and plan for handling each.

Flight Number:

Battery number:

Time of takeoff:

Names: Pilot / Spotter / Data recorder:

Goal for this flight:

Flight duration:

Flight path (make a map)

Image/ video file names / folder name taken
from ground / in-flight.

Observations:

How did flight end? (Crash/soft/etc)

Flight path / altitude description: