

Pre-Maiden Checklist

Model: _____

Date: _____

Things to check in the shop:		
1	Is everything mounted securely?	
2	Are control surface hinges secure?	
3	Do the servos operate without binding? Do they center accurately?	
4	Do the control surfaces move in the correct directions (especially for v-tail, elevon, canard, etc.)?	
5	Have I read the set-up notes in the model's instruction manual?	
6	Are dual rates and exponential throw set for the appropriate channels?	
7	Do I want to add any mixes (rudder-aileron, flap-elevator, etc.)?	
8	Is the CG in an acceptable location (think twice for unconventional aircraft!)?	
9	Do I have complete, unwavering confidence in the receiver battery/BEC?	
10	Does the engine/motor run acceptably in ALL throttle positions?	
11	Is the amount of vibration acceptable at ALL throttle positions?	
12	Are all power system components (motor/battery/ESC/BEC) operating within their stated limits? (Electric aircraft only)	
13	Do the wheels and ground steering system operate nominally?	
14	Does the airplane have adequate color contrast for sunny/overcast skies and top/bottom orientation?	
15	Is the ready-to-fly weight acceptable?	
16	Are the transmitter/ receiver/motor batteries fully charged?	
17	What tools will I need to assemble and adjust this airplane at the field?	
18	Are there any weak areas I should be careful of when handling/transporting?	
19	Notes:	

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Things to check at the field:		
1	Did I forget to bring anything?	
2	Is this field adequate to fly this model (size, runway, bordering trees, full-scale air traffic, people, etc.)?	
3	Are the weather conditions acceptable for this model (wind speed/direction, sun position, etc.)?	
4	Are the transmitter/receiver/motor batteries fully charged?	
5	Are all servo extensions plugged in correctly and securely?	
6	Is the wing/hatch/tail securely attached?	
7	Have I obtained the correct frequency pin for this radio?	
8	Do I have the correct model memory selected on my transmitter?	
9	Do the control surfaces STILL move in the correct directions?	
10	Have I performed a thorough radio range check?	
11	Is the CG STILL in an acceptable location?	
12	Does the engine/motor STILL run acceptably in ALL throttle positions?	
13	Am I qualified to handle the expected performance of this model?	
14	Do I have a trusted assistant to spot/help with trims/keep time/talk me through this?	
15	How long do I plan to fly before setting up for landing?	
16	What are my goals for the maiden flight (trim, stall/spin, photo/video)?	
17	Do I feel internal or external pressure to maiden this model today?	
18	Am I comfortable with the risks I have accepted to maiden this model today?	
19	Will I regret having accepted those risks if I crash?	
20	Have I notified others of my intent to maiden?	
21	Should I wait/ask for uncrowded sky?	
22	Does the model taxi as I expect?	
23	Am I confident of success yet ready to handle any outcome?	
24	Notes:	