

Subject: Links for getting into the Drone World

Presented at OARC club meeting on 15 November 2025

Getting into the drone world the way I did, I would highly recommend spending at least 10 hours practicing on a drone simulator. There are a lot of great resources on youtube for recommendations and any of them will give you the necessary skills to fly more confidently without too many expensive crashes.

To get a simulator [download Steam](#) on any computer. Steam is a video game distributor and will act as a library for these kinds of purchases. After you have it downloaded to your computer you can purchase one of the simulators.

I'd recommend you purchase a controller at this stage as it will be the same controller you will use to fly the drones in the simulator as well as real life. The controller I use is the [RadioMaster Pocket](#) (the RadioMaster Boxer is also very popular). The protocol that these controls use is important and i would recommend going with **ExpressLRS** aka **ELRS** (be sure that the controller description says this as well as the drone you use to ensure compatibility)

I'd recommend the following simulators to practice on:

[Liftoff FPV Drone Racing](#)

[Liftoff Micro Drones](#)

[Uncrashed](#)

The FAA rules do not require you to register a drone that is under 0.55lbs (250g) in weight. The little drone that I brought with me to the presentation was the [Air65 from BetaFPV](#). Drones that are a little larger such as the Meteor75 will be slightly more stable when flying outside and have a slightly longer battery life. however with a little more weight comes a higher chance for damage if you crash, and you WILL crash (a lot).

In addition to the drone you will still need to purchase a control (as mentioned above) and Goggles/Monitor for the drone.

The most affordable monitor i'd recommend is this [simple monitor](#) which is analog (if you go this route be sure the drone you buy is also analog)

For larger drones between 0.55-55lbs the complete rules on drone registration you can follow this [link that will take you to the FAA website](#).

If you plan to make money commercially you will need to get a 107 pilots license which requires passing a test through the FAA.

It can be a little confusing getting into the Hobby but I'd be happy to help if anyone is getting stuck at any of these stages. There is also a great group of drone enthusiasts in Utah and I'd recommend joining their groups on Facebook and attending some of their races. They are a fantastic resource as well.

Thank you!

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