

# Use of a drone for recreation purposes



**Ensuring people and other aircraft's safety is under your responsibility**

The improper use of a drone in direct violation of the rules set to ensure safety is liable to one year of imprisonment and to a 75.000 euros fine under Article L. 62324 code of transport.

Flying over a restricted or prohibited area with a drone is liable to one year jail, to 45 000 euros fine and to Drone confiscation under Articles L 6232-12 and L 6232-13 code of transport.

Rules for the proper use of a recreational drone.

For more information, visit the website of the direction générale de l'Aviation civile (DGAC):

[www.developpementdurable.gouv.fr/-Drones-aeronefs-telepilotes-.html](http://www.developpementdurable.gouv.fr/-Drones-aeronefs-telepilotes-.html)  
[www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Modeles-reduits-et-drones-de.html](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Modeles-reduits-et-drones-de.html)

**1 I do not fly over people.**

**2 I respect the maximum flight heights.**

**3 I never lose sight of my drone and I do not use it at night.**

**4 I do not fly my drone over public spaces in urban areas.**

**5 I never use my drone anywhere near airfields or airports.**

**6 I never fly over sensitive areas or protected sites.**

**7 I always respect other people's privacy.**

**8 I do not broadcast my aerial pictures or videos without the consent of the concerned persons and I do not make any commercial use out of it.**

**9 I check the terms of my insurance policy concerning this activity.**

**10 When in doubt, I ask for more information.**



1

**I DO NOT FLY OVER PEOPLE**

I use my drone carefully so as not to endanger surrounding persons and vehicles. I do not fly over them and I keep a minimum safe distance. I stay away from any gathering of people.

2

**I RESPECT THE MAXIMUM FLIGHT HEIGHTS**

Outside the authorized Model Aircraft sites, the maximum flying altitude AGL is set by default to 150 meters (492 feet). It is less than that in the vicinity of airfields and in some military aviation training areas during their active times. I therefore always respect these maximum heights to limit the risk of collision between my drone and an aircraft. Before flying, I always check the maximum authorized height on <http://www.geoportail.gouv.fr/donnees/restrictions-pour-drones-de-loisir>. In any case, I do not start a flight - or I interrupt my ongoing flight - as soon as I see an aircraft flying nearby.

3

**I NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF MY DRONE AND I DO NOT USE IT AT NIGHT**

I keep my drone at a distance so that it remains easily visible to the naked eye (unaided by any device other than corrective lenses) and I keep it in my field of view at all times. Immersion Flights (FPV) and the use of following drones are possible under certain conditions, requiring the presence of a second person to ensure safety.

Furthermore, to ensure the safety of aircraft flying at low altitude such as helicopters performing rescue operations, regulations prohibit the use of drones at night, even if they are equipped with lighting devices.

4

**I DO NOT FLY MY DRONE OVER PUBLIC SPACES IN URBAN AREAS**

In urban areas, it's possible to fly over a private space with a small drone and without public presence as long as its maximal speed and height are adapted to the surrounding environment (buildings, trees...) so as to limit the risks in case of loss of control. I never use my drone over public spaces.

5

**I NEVER USE MY DRONE ANYWHERE NEAR AIRFIELDS AND AIRPORTS**

I do not use my drone near any aerodrome hosting airplanes, helicopters, gliders, ultralight aircraft, etc. Minimum distances must be respected and can reach 10 km for important airfields.

6

**I NEVER FLY OVER SENSITIVE AREAS OR PROTECTED SITES**

Some sensitive or protected sites and their surroundings are banned from flying. Examples of such sites are: nuclear power plants, military zones, historical monuments, natural reserves and national parks. I always inquire about the possible presence of such restricted sites before flying my drone.

7

**I ALWAYS RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S PRIVACY**

The people around me or around my drone must be informed of what I do, especially if my drone is equipped with a camera or any other data recording sensor. I inform people, I answer their questions, and I respect their right to privacy. I refrain from recording pictures or videos allowing recognition or identification of persons (faces, license plates...) without their permission.

8

**I DO NOT BROADCAST MY AERIAL PICTURES OR VIDEOS WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE CONCERNED PERSONS AND I DO NOT MAKE ANY COMMERCIAL USE OUT OF IT**

Any image distribution is subject to authorization from the concerned persons or owner when flying over a private space (home, garden, etc.), and must comply with the regulation (including the Act of 6 January 1978 called « Informatique et Libertés »).

Any use of a drone which objective is filming for commercial or professional reasons is subject to specific requirements and requires an authorization issued by French DGAC (direction générale de l'Aviation civile).

9

**I CHECK THE TERMS OF MY INSURANCE POLICY CONCERNING THIS ACTIVITY**

I can be liable for damage caused to other aircraft, persons or properties. If I did not contract any specific insurance, I check the terms of my civil liability insurance policy.

10

**WHEN IN DOUBT, I ASK FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Refer to the guide on model aircrafts on the website of the direction générale de l'Aviation civile for more information on conditions for recreational use drones.

Drone Users' associations and the Commission Nationale Informatique et Libertés are also useful sources of information.

DGAC (direction générale de l'Aviation civile): [www.developpementdurable.gouv.fr/Dronesaeronefstelepilotes.html](http://www.developpementdurable.gouv.fr/Dronesaeronefstelepilotes.html)

CNIL (Commission Nationale Informatique et Libertés): [www.cnil.fr](http://www.cnil.fr)

FFAM (French Federation of Aeromodelling): [www.ffam.asso.fr](http://www.ffam.asso.fr)

FPDC (Professional Federation of Civil Drone): [www.federation-drone.org](http://www.federation-drone.org)

FFD (French Federation of Drone): [www.federation-francaise-drone.com](http://www.federation-francaise-drone.com)

Regulatory References:

Arrêté du 17 décembre 2015 relatif à l'utilisation de l'espace aérien par les aéronefs qui circulent sans personne à bord.

Arrêté du 17 décembre 2015 relatif à la conception des aéronefs civils qui circulent sans personne à bord, aux conditions de leur emploi et aux capacités requises des personnes qui les utilisent

More information is available on the website of the direction générale de l'Aviation civile (DGAC):

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