



Brandon Wright

# Car Report

## Spektrum DX3R 2.4GHz Surface

**Horizon Hobby expands their surface system offerings with the next-level Spektrum radio.**

Spektrum's latest addition to their surface radio line is the DX3R, a 3-channel DSM2 radio system on 2.4GHz for crystal-free and worry-free operation. The DX3R is loaded with features for the advanced hobbyist, or the entry-level hobbyist who wants the ability to grow into the extras offered in this high-end RC system. The DX3R features a 30-model memory, so drivers won't have to keep buying radios for every new car or boat they acquire. It will take most enthusiasts a long time to fill that many model slots.

The DX3R comes with the transmitter, receiver, switch harness, receiver battery holder and all necessary parts to reconfigure the standard right-hand case for left-hand drivers.

The 2.4GHz DSM2 SR3100 receiver measures .85 inches by 1.3 inches by .48 and will fit into just about any RC surface vehicle you like, whether car, buggy, crawler, truck or boat.



The left-hand conversion kit is a feature that most radio systems do not offer. It's super easy to install, and moves the steering wheel and thumb-button controls to the opposite side of the case for southpaw drivers. Righty or lefty, all the trims are located to allow quick and easy adjustments on the fly, and the buttons are all assignable

to suit your preferences.

Bold black characters on the large, liquid-crystal-display screen are easy to read, indoors or out, and the single roller/selector on the rear of the transmitter takes care of all the programming. The control works a lot like a computer mouse; just scroll the roller to go



*Roll-and-click programming selector is at the rear side of the transmitter case. On-the-fly driving controls are conveniently located at the thumb position.*

through the different programming choices, then press the roller to select the one you want. Programming doesn't get any easier than that.



### Specifications

- Type: Pistol-grip surface
- Channels: Three
- Modulation: DSM2
- Band: 2.4GHz
- Receiver: One-piece SR3100
- Timer functions: Countdown, count up and integrated

### 2.4GHz Features

- 30-model memory
- Graphically depicted travel adjust
- Graphically depicted expo adjust
- Assignable switches
- Model Match
- Right-hand/left-hand reversible
- Rests upright or nose down



2.4GHz Spektrum SR3100 receiver is a one-piece DSM2 unit. This compact receiver measures only .85 by 1.3 by .48 inches and weighs just .21 ounces. A switch harness and battery holder are included.

I found it very easy to navigate the Spektrum DX3R menus to get the radio set up in no time. I was very impressed with the menus and programming navigation, and how quickly and simply I could get the radio to perform exactly the way I wanted. The programming is extensive, and it leaves nothing out for that competitive edge at the track. Whether you are running nitro, gas or electric, the DX3R can handle the programming.

The exponential screen as well as the travel screen are shown in a graph format, which really helps drivers to get the precise feel they are looking for. Instead of just looking at numbers and trying to figure them out, seeing the information in graphs always makes it easier to translate.

The DX3R also features Spektrum's Model Match technology. When the radio is turned on, the transmitter senses whether the correct model has been selected. If it isn't, the radio won't operate the model. This means an end to wrong model starts, which I'm sure many of us have experienced at least once. Incorrect startups aren't fun, and depending on the outcome, can sometimes be unnecessarily expensive. No matter; they're gone now.

The DX3R features model copy, so you can set your vehicle just the way you like it, then copy it to another model to try a few fine tunings. If the changes don't work out, you still have the original version saved, and it only takes a few seconds to revert.

The DX3R feels really great in your hand. All the controls are properly placed, and the super-light weight keeps your arm from getting tired if you hold it for a long time for a long main or a lot of backyard bashing. Another nice thing is that the DX3R only uses four AA batteries

instead of eight, and that keeps the weight down and cuts the cost of batteries in half when they need to be replaced.

The transmitter can stand upright, or rest on its nose, keeping the center of gravity low. The DX3R has molded-in flat areas with protectors for setting it down so it won't to fall over and get all marked up — a really great idea.



Spektrum's large liquid-crystal display screen features easy-to-read characters for programming convenience, even in bright sunlight. DX3R's programming features are extensive, and include frame rate, exponential, travel, switch assignment, model reset and copy, sub trims, three timer functions and more.



The new Spektrum DX3R is sure to be a winner with every surface driver who gets one. I really like mine, and I race with a lot of friends who have purchased them and are very happy about it. Whether you are a top-notch racer looking for advanced programming, ease of use and a lightweight feel, or just your average driver looking to get into the next level of 2.4GHz DSM2 radios, the Spektrum DX3R will deliver it. This RC system can easily be just the radio your are looking for.

For additional information about the DX3R surface RC system, and all the latest DSM2 2.4GHz radios and accessories from Spektrum, RC, see the ads on pages 5 and 8-9, visit on the Web at [www.horizonhobby.com](http://www.horizonhobby.com), or call Horizon Hobby in Illinois at 800-535-5551. **HM**



Spektrum DX3R system comes with all the parts needed to convert the transmitter from the standard right-hand operation to left-handed operation. Conversion only takes a few minutes.