



Jeff Troy

Flight Report

E-flite's Blade mCX

Smallest and lightest Blade to date, mCX may be the easiest flyer of all.

The design and production teams at E-flite just keeps getting better and better at what they do, and they started out with amazing models, right from the top. The innovative, contra-rotating E-flite Blade CX was the ready-to-fly machine that started the movement toward beginner-friendly radio control helicopters, and its instant success is responsible for thousands of new — and very satisfied — RC helicopter enthusiasts.

A barrage of more refined and even easier-to-fly helicopters followed, including the Blade CX2 trainer, the collective-pitch Blade CP and highly advanced Blade CP2. Each machine offered features not found on previous versions, and the performance could best be described as through-the-roof, unbelievably great.

Although E-flite will clearly never allow their designs and refinements to “peak out,” they did have room to build in an all-new direction, making the tiny Blade even smaller and more accessible.



ance. Double-pushbutton, electronic trims are present on all four channels. The transmitter requires only four AA alkaline cells, and they are included.



E-flite Blade mCX transmitter uses Spektrum DSM 2.4GHz technology for interference-free, crystal-free and worry-free guidance.

The 4-channel 2.4GHz Spektrum DSM technology transmitter is there, as are a 3.7-volt LiPo flight pack and a battery-powered charger for the LiPo battery.



The Blade mCX — with the “m” for micro — is a reduced-size version of the enormously successful Blade CX coaxial, contra-rotating, twin-rotor trainer. The rotor span is just 7.5 inches, and the entire model, battery installed and ready to fly, weighs only one ounce. It’s a truly amazing design and production accomplishment.

Opening the box is a treat. Everything is there, well protected inside a foam-topped, foam cradle to prevent damage in shipping. The model comes completely factory assembled. The radio system is factory installed, the twin-coreless-motor electric power system is factory installed, and the factory-painted body is on the mechanics.



Specifications

- Rotor diameter: 7.5 inches
- Length: 7.9 inches
- Weight: 1 ounce
- Power: Twin coreless micro motors
- Battery: 3.7-volt, 110mAh LiPo
- RC: 2.4MHz 4-channel with 5-in-1 receiver, servos, gyro and ESC

RTF Features

- 100 percent ready-to-fly helicopter
- Factory-installed 2.4GHz RC system
- Factory-installed motor system
- Coaxial, contra-rotating main blades
- LiPo flight battery and quick charger
- AA cells for transmitter and charger
- 36-page instruction manual



110V AC or 12V DC charger? Nah. How about a self-powered charger that works anywhere with four included AA alkaline cells? Tiny, included 3.7V 110mAh LiPo battery delivers 12-or-more minutes of flight time on just a 15-20-minute charge. LED indicates condition.

The single-cell LPO is very tiny, although it delivers approximately 12 minutes of flight time on a full charge. The included charger is a battery-powered unit that tops the LiPo off in roughly 20 minutes or less, and the four AA alkaline cells that power it are also included in the Blade mCX package. A bright red LED on the top of the charger blinks or lights solidly to indicate charge status.

Setup is quick and easy, because there is none. There is absolutely nothing to do with this machine beyond removing the components from the box, charging the LiPo battery and reading the manual while it charges. Customers can open the lid and fly within 20 minutes.

Not only can customers be airborne in 20 minutes, they can be flying one of the finest and most thoughtfully engineered training helicopters in the world. In true Blade tradition, the mCX is the novice pilot's dream machine.

I turned on the transmitter, waited a few seconds as directed, then connected the flight battery. The rotors and motors responded as they should, and I was very excited to see that the Blade mCX has a really cool glow-in-the-dark feature for added fun indoors with the lights out.

I spooled the motors and the Blade lifted straight up, with no yaw, pitch or roll correction. I took the machine to roughly 6 feet, and watched with a smile as it just hung there, ascending or descending in concert with the throttle, never moving the nose until I commanded it to do so.

I had my daughter, Devin, fly the Blade mCX, and she came away every bit as impressed by the tiny helicopter as I am. She is not a helicopter pilot, and is always more than a little surprised when a machine is easy to handle. The E-flite Blade mCX is a miniature, top-of-the-line training helicopter. Get it. Sell it. Count on it! **HM**



Captured in flight in editor's living room, E-flite's super-stable Blade mCX is suitable for flying in almost any imaginable indoor location.