

WORDS MATT MAZIARZ mattm@flyrc.com

## PRECISION AEROBATICS

# How To 3D DVD

## LEARN TO PERFORM 3D CORRECTLY!

**ITEM:** How to 3D DVD  
**MANUFACTURER:** Precision Aerobatics  
**HOW MUCH:** \$19.95

Just as with full-size aircraft, there are many different facets of RC flight. In this humble pilot's opinion, 3D is the most thrilling part of all the aspects of radio control aircraft. Performing maneuvers that defy the laws of physics and are only possible with the power-to-weight ratio that our models afford us are what really get my heart racing, but the fact remains; learning and perfecting such stunts often lead to hours upon hours of unimpeded practice. While simulator programs are a great tool for learning such tricks, until one actually witnesses first-hand the stunts that they are yearning to perfect, they are often left with a busted airframe, resulting from a lack of expertise and/or knowledge that may pertain

to the secrets of such stunts. This video and the tips held within are an invaluable tool for those with basic flight experience who are looking to get into precision or 3D flight and the natural progression laid out in the step-by-step process is both fun to watch and highly educational.

Precision Aerobatics is a manufacturer that focuses almost exclusively on sport and 3D models and they are looking to demystify some of the most sought-after tricks involved with the 3D flying experience with their new DVD, "How To 3D." Whether I'm flying at the field or in the shop on a simulator, if I have drawn a crowd of excited onlookers that are marveling at what my aircraft is doing, I often instruct them to look at my thumbs rather than the airplane. Truth be told, if you don't know what to do with the sticks, you'll never learn how to properly achieve the stunts that you might be looking to learn. The DVD addresses this by using screen-captured videos of each individual maneuver being flown on the RealFlight RF7 simulator, complete with a transmitter icon on the screen, allowing the viewer to see exactly what stick inputs are being used during the process of performing such maneuvers. Whether you're just getting into 3D flight or already have a few tricks under your belt, these DVDs are sure to guide you where you want to go.

The DVD is actually a two-disc set that starts out by displaying the simplest of stunts such as elevators, walls, harriers and knife edges, progressing into the more difficult ones like flat spins, torque rolls and rolling harriers. Such a progression is welcome in that it will benefit the user in that



mastering of the simpler tricks is required for some of the more difficult ones. They begin each individual maneuver with a short clip of their team pilots performing them and then they switch over to the simulator view so that the viewer can see exactly what is being done to perform the stunt. In addition, there is an intuitive narration throughout every step of each specific maneuver that both instructs and warns of what not to do. The video also illustrates that being able to fly slowly (choosing the correct model is of the utmost importance) is key

to performing a proper 3D routine. Think of it more like a ballet dancer rather than a gymnast. An airframe with forgiving stall tendencies and huge lift will aid in being able to perform such maneuvers and again, this is well-maintained throughout the course of the instructional video. All of the aircraft flown on the DVDs are available for download at [knifeedge.com](http://knifeedge.com) and they were created by actual pilots!

In closing, learning to perform 3D can be a frustrating and hair-raising experience. This video, especially when coupled with the use of a proper flight simulator, will aid any pilot in their quest to learn and perfect the stunts that they are so badly looking to master. While some

might scoff at the added expense of a tutorial DVD, the cost is far outweighed by those that often come with a busted airframe that is all too common when concerning the steep learning curve of 3D flight. For under twenty bucks, I'd say these DVDs are a steal and well worth the money. If the instructional tips weren't enough, the two disc DVD set also includes 44 minutes of bonus footage containing some awesome routines of choreographed flights, further pumping up the viewer to get on the sticks and start learning. Want to learn how to 3D? Watch the video! You'll be thankful you did... I know I am and am eagerly anticipating learning a few new maneuvers to add to my flight routines. ☺

**CONTACT**  
**PRECISION AEROBATICS**  
[precisionaerobatics.com](http://precisionaerobatics.com)

For more information, please see our source guide on page 105.



