

BY CHRISTOPHER IORIO ■ PHOTOS BY HOPE McCALL

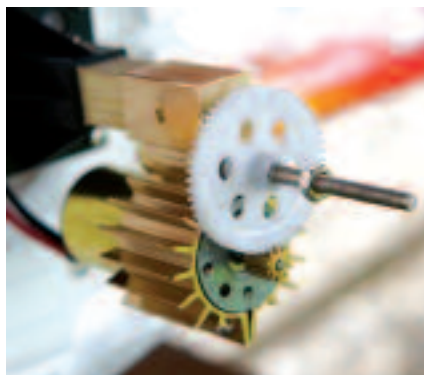
Parkflyers RC

DAREDEVIL RTF

An all-inclusive package, this **ready-to-fly aerobat** is an ideal introduction to 3D

THE PARKFLYERS.COM DAREDEVIL RTF is truly a very complete package. Not only does it come with a motor and an electronic speed control, but also with a transmitter, 6-channel receiver, battery, charger and hardware, and most is already installed. There is even a flight simulator included. From the moment I opened the box I was impressed. Very little construction is needed to get this biplane in the air. It is also very light because it is made almost entirely of durable foam.

With its powerful 3600kv brushless motor already installed, an 11x4.7 prop and 3-cell, 1300mAh LiPo, you have yourself a powerhouse package. This biplane can fly gracefully or you can turn it into what its name implies, a true Daredevil. Its compact design allows you to transport it to and



The brushless inrunner motor and gearbox provide plenty of thrust.

from the field (or park) in one piece yet still allows you take it apart quickly if you need to. This plane is not just intended for the intermediate pilot, but as 3D entertainment for the expert pilot as well.

SPECIFICATIONS

- MODEL** Daredevil RTF
- MANUFACTURER** ParkFlyers R/C
- DISTRIBUTOR** ParkFlyers R/C
- TYPE** RTF aerobatic biplane
- WINGSPAN** 33.5 in.
- WING AREA** 396.8 in.
- LENGTH** 28.75 in.
- WEIGHT** 24.3 oz.
- WING LOADING** 8.8 oz./sq. ft.
- RADIO** 4-channel transmitter with receiver and 3 microserves (included)
- POWER** 3600kv brushless motor and 18A ESC (included)
- PRICE** \$199

HIGHLIGHTS

- Everything included
- Futaba/Hitec-compatible receiver
- Builds quickly
- Show-stopping looks

UNIQUE FEATURES

The Daredevil is almost completely built except for some assembly before you are on your way to the flying field. The manual is complete with photos that help guide you through the process.

All of the control surfaces come hinged and all the hardware is installed. The motor has already been installed for you, and the cowl is already cut out and screwed on. The canopy is tinted with a control panel decal on it that really gives some original flavor to the plane. The fuselage and wing decals are already attached as well. The only thing that you have to do with regard to the radio is to plug the aileron servo on the lower wing into the receiver. This model has a single servo that controls all four ailerons



The author preps the Daredevil for its maiden flight.



with great authority. Be careful with the clevises; they are not the same ones you would put on a larger plane. If you are like me, you will learn the hard way that if you try opening it too hard it will break. The landing gear came already prepared with wheels and wheel pants installed and all you have to do is snap them in. The lower wing and the top wing are securely fastened by two bolts for each wing. The I-struts just slide on in and are secured by two screws. This is easily done in a matter of minutes. The control horns are also installed, and there's no need to measure from the hinge line or try to line them up perfectly because it is done for you.

The 6-channel receiver is also compatible with Futaba and Hitec transmitters. So, if you happen to have a synthesized transmit-



The battery compartment includes a plastic hatch cover.

ter, you can set up dual rates, exponential, or anything else you can think of. With that said, I used the original transmitter that came with this plane because I did not have to do any tinkering to properly set it up.



The upper and lower ailerons are connected via a slave rod.

The 3600kv brushless motor provided with this plane is an absolute powerhouse. As I ran up the engine on my workbench I noticed that it provided a lot of thrust; this was a real taste of things to come.

THE DAREDEVIL IS A GREAT STEP INTO 3D AND IT HAS ENOUGH PERFORMANCE FOR AN EXPERT AS WELL

VIDEO ONLINE!

modelairplanenews.com



The CG on this plane was dead on with the battery that came with the plane but after the first few flights, I thought it was acting a bit tail-heavy, so I added 1 ounce of weight to the nose. After I did this, the plane flew really well. I decided to hand-launch it because the grass was a bit too high for the wheels. It was a bit windy when I first flew it and I thought I'd have my hands full for sure, but that

thought very quickly left my mind when the Daredevil was airborne. A helper literally give it a gentle toss and it jumped into the air. I also took off from a very short paved area, and the Daredevil took off in about 4 feet, with a beautiful and predictable climbout.

CONCLUSION

I can honestly say that this entire project

took me maybe 45 minutes to complete. I was done before the 90-minute charger turned green. The ParkFlyers.com Daredevil can pretty much be built by anybody. Take your time when trying to set everything up and you will be rewarded with a great-flying plane. ✚

See the Source Guide for manufacturers' contact information.

WITH THE ADDITION OF A COMPUTER TRANSMITTER, THE DAREDEVIL CAN REALLY TURN UP THE HEAT



CONTROL THROWS

ELEVATOR ± 9/8 in.; no expo

AILERON ± 3/8 in.; no expo

RUDDER ± 1 in.; no expo

GEAR USED

RADIO 72MHz 4-channel transmitter, 6-channel E-Fly 100 receiver, 3 micro servos (all included)

MOTOR 3600kv brushless motor and 18A speed control (included)

BATTERY 3-cell 1300mAh LiPo with wall charger (included)

PROP 11x4.7 (included)

In the Air

With the battery charged I went out to the field to check things out. A large baseball field or a large park will allow you to fully enjoy this plane. This is a fun little plane to fly!

General Flight Performance

STABILITY Although it is easy to fly, the Daredevil is fast for a biplane and you should be careful not to slam the elevator too hard with maximum deflection because it does have the tendency to snap. It is very responsive.

TRACKING The Daredevil performs beautifully even in the wind, with only an occasional correction for wind gusts. At full throttle, it has a tendency to want to go up ever so slightly.

AEROBATICS The Daredevil is a great step into 3D and it has enough performance for an expert as well. It has quick rolls, performs large loops, and is an all-around very good performer. Snap rolls are responsive and quick and are a joy to perform.

GLIDE & STALL PERFORMANCE Landing and approaches are very easy and predictable. I kept waiting for the Daredevil to snap when I

slowed down but all that would happen is it would nose down. Every so often it would drop a wing tip, but it was very uneventful and very predictable.

Pilot Debriefing

The included transmitter, servos, and battery work great for just starting out. With the addition of the Futaba and Hitec compatible receiver I was also able to put in some exponential, and that really softened up the elevator. The power and performance of this aircraft is outstanding for somebody just getting started in 3D. With the addition of a computer transmitter, the Daredevil can really turn up the heat. The power system gave outstanding performance and flights lasted for almost 15 minutes. Another nice thing about this plane is the price of new parts for the airframe. Parts are only about \$30 and it's great to be able to buy new parts for those little mistakes that you make.