

## Conclusion

There's no shortage of people telling pilots what they're supposed to do, but not many can explain how. Consequently, most flyers hold on to the narrow view that only practice makes perfect. The million dollar question once again is, "practice what?" In the absence of any plan for success, it becomes more difficult to maintain the motivation to overcome challenges when attempting to advance. On the other hand, those who increase their odds of success by planning for it are more motivated to continue putting forth the effort. Thus, while heli flying is very much a reactive sport, it also entails a strong mental component.

The 4 primary ways to ensure steady advancement are: 1. Planning / preparation. 2. A progressive crawl-walk-run (building-block) approach to training. 3. Concentrated practice time. 4. Periodically pushing the envelope to make previous areas of practice seem easier. Contrary to popular belief, those who learn most quickly do not look to learn from their mistakes. Rather, the best flyers in our sport compartmentalize their flights, remembering mainly the things they do that produce favorable results, while forgetting the unfavorable. By repeating the favorable actions often enough, significant segments of their flying become routine and proficiency follows. Similarly, when you encounter challenges, rather than focusing on your mistakes, identifying what changes need to be made to your control inputs to achieve a better outcome is often the best way to work through the difficulty. Put simply, the helicopter does not know the age or experience level of the person at the controls, only what commands it's receiving. So if you want to produce a better result, you need to pay attention to the commands you are sending it.

Helicopter flying beyond the basics is arguably the most challenging and therefore rewarding form of radio control flying when successful. Those who have invested themselves in becoming proficient heli pilots already know that, and now you know what it takes to know it too. So enjoy, and be proud of your accomplishments.



As you endeavor to advance, your success will largely reflect your level of preparation and thinking on the ground.