Section 2:
Basic Aerobatics

Airplane Considerations and Control Setup

Primary to Aerobatic Airplane Transition

Parallel Positioning

Basic Aerobatics Introduction

Aerobatics is unarguably the most engaging and rewarding forms of flying available to the R/C pilot, not to mention a prerequisite for 3D flying success.

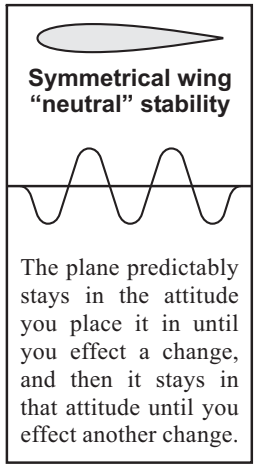
While individual opinions vary regarding the "best" methods for learning aerobatics, there's no question which methods work best when up against the School's 4-day aerobatics course deadlines! The timeless crawl-walk-run approach presented here has proved to be the most effective method for learning aerobatics in the shortest amount of time. Once you master basic aerobatics, you'll have the foundation to begin rapidly building a more successful and satisfying R/C flying experience for years to come.

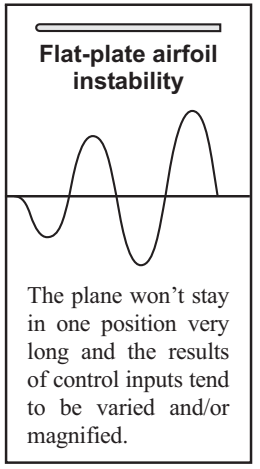
Of course, an essential component in this process is choosing an airplane well suited to basic aerobatic training. That means a "neutral" plane with a symmetrical wing and ailerons that neither resists nor exaggerates what it is told to do. While a high wing primary trainer with ailerons is capable of some aerobatics, one ends up forcing it to do what it wasn't meant to do. Ultimately, aerobatics are easier to learn flying an airplane with a wing designed for aerobatics.

Note: Landings, wind, and symmetrical wing planes tend to expose poor fundamentals and bad habits that flyers can otherwise get away with. If you are comfortable landing a trainer—proving good fundamentals—you'll enjoy stepping up to the "flying on rails" feel, precise control, and increased capabilities of a symmetrical wing plane. On the other hand, those who can not comfortably land a slower trainer will find stepping up to a faster symmetrical wing plane extremely difficult (and will often end up looking for something other than becoming a better pilot to keep their interest).

Assuming good fundamentals, the main difference transitioning into a "neutral" symmetrical wing plane from a primary trainer is that the plane will not correct itself, but stays where you put it. You will, therefore, need to deliberately return the wings to level and correct unwanted climbs and descents with the elevator.

Since flat-plate airfoil "foamies" tend to be unstable and therefore require more effort to fly in general, foamies are not recommended for basic aerobatic training. P.S. When you watch a pro fly a foamie smoothly, it is the pilot's skill that makes the difference!





KPTR: Consistent landings with a basic trainer are the prerequisite to symmetrical wing aerobatic success.