

Clik F3P

by Greyson Pritchett

My dad, and then last month Dave Lockhart, have been talking a lot about the Clik class of indoor precision aerobatics in Canada, (thanks, Harry!) the airplane itself, and how easy and affordable it all is for getting into indoor pattern. So, I got one! Available from Twisted Hobbies (I love everything from them I've ever had!) <https://twistedhobbies.com/th-33-epp-clip-r2-super-lite-blue/> for \$81.99. I also picked up their power package <https://twistedhobbies.com/power-combo-clip-shake-indoor-crack-dmg-series/> for \$104.99 – a total of around \$200 with shipping for a great flying indoor pattern plane! If you've ever built one single foamy building the Clik will be a breeze.

From the first glance in the box, the Clik looks awesome! As you will see everything is very well thought out.



This airplane goes together very easily and is very light for what it is. The total weight of the airframe without the carbon rods is 39.5 grams.



There are lots of ways that you can make it lighter - using different hardware, props, motor, esc, servos, etc. Another way to save some weight is by using carbon tubing, this can save about two or three grams depending on what quality carbon you use. For this build, I used everything that twisted hobbies provides in their "light pack". I wanted to see how the airplane would perform with everything that they recommend. The only variant that I have is I ended up using is a carbon fiber PT 9X3i prop. The standard propellers that twisted hobbies provide with the Clik are around 5.2 grams and the carbon PT 9X3i is around 3 grams. You would think it's not all that different, but in a plane that weighs roughly 120 grams, every gram counts. For the motor, it is a TMW out-runner 1800kv 2203 20-gram motor. The esc included is a 15amp Crack Series Pro, the Aileron Servo is the Twisted hobbies CS-70DMG Digital metal gear servo. For the Rudder and Elevator, I used the CS-40DMG Digital metal gear servo. All these components can be found on twisted hobbies website under power packs. This system is called the "super light" power combo. If you wanted to go down your own path for electronics there are a few things that will work great and still keep it light. You can change the ESC from a 15amp, to an 8-10-amp esc. As far as servos go, for the rudder and elevator if you are wanting to fly this only indoor, I would recommend spectrum a2010 Ultra micro servo. For ailerons you could go with the Futaba 3114 or for even lighter, you could use the DP33 servo. Dave described last month a couple other ways to lighten stuff, like stripping the servo case bottoms off. The MINIMUM weight for the Clik class is 100 grams, and



without doing that, keeping everything simple, mine stayed under 120 grams. I'm guessing that's what most pattern guys would choose to do for sticking their toe into indoor pattern.

As far as flight characteristics go this airplane flies very well. It rolls on an axis, pulls and pushes very straight. There were no flaws in flying through the click class without making any changes from the airplane or the electronic components. One thing with a plane that weighs in around 100+ grams is that the downlines can be a little quick. Those new to indoor flying might think this airplane is really slow – compared to most foamies it is but remember that the point of the Clik class is to avoid the 40-60-gram airplanes we fly in FAI with counter rotating propeller systems. Light gets expensive! Compared to those, this is a different flying airplane (but so is the maneuver schedule) – and we all know the importance of downline speed in presentation. One way to help slow the downlines is by making 45-degree airbrakes on the ailerons. As you can see in the picture below of my Super Trino, I made airbrakes out of small carbon fiber rod and Mylar. You can also do this with any kind of foam with small air holes cut in the brake. This would make a noticeable decrease in the downline speed of the



airplane while adding very little weight. With the weight around 100 to 120 grams this airplane can be very capable of also flying outdoors in calm winds.

Overall this is a great plane to start flying indoor aerobatics with! The Clik is very capable of doing any maneuver given the space provided. Here are some pics of the finished airplane – I would be happy to talk more about it with you. Don't hesitate to drop me a note: greysonpritch@gmail.com

Greyson Pritchett is the Junior member of the 2019 United States F3P team. The team will represent the US at the Aorakia Sporting Arena in Heraklion, Crete, Greece, in March 2019. Greyson won the 2015 AMA Nationals in Advanced, was 3rd in the 2016 Nationals in Masters, and 2nd in 2017. Following the 2017 Nationals he moved to FAI and is the current D4 FAI champion. He also flies helicopters and plans to compete in both IMAC and pattern in 2019. Greyson recently finished second in the Tucson Aerobatic Shootout Advanced class. He's a freshman at Muncie Central High School in Muncie, IN.



CLASSIFIEDS

Please submit ads to scottf3a@outlook.com. The item for sale must be personally owned and sold as used. Each ad may contain no more than 25 words not including contact information (either email address or phone number and name), a price, and a 5-word title. You may also submit a picture. Please make sure the picture is in focus and of high resolution as the picture will be small in the ad. It will also be black and white in the print version of the K-Factor but color in the digital version. All items must be submitted separately (with the exception of "a box of bolts" or similar). All ads must be received by the 10th of each month to be in the following month. The is free for current NSRCA members.