



codrone **EDU**
JROTC EDITION

.....

User Manual

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ROBOLINK ★



Welcome to your CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition) journey!

We recommend **everyone** go through our “Getting Started” course online. It will give you an in-depth look into everything in this manual.

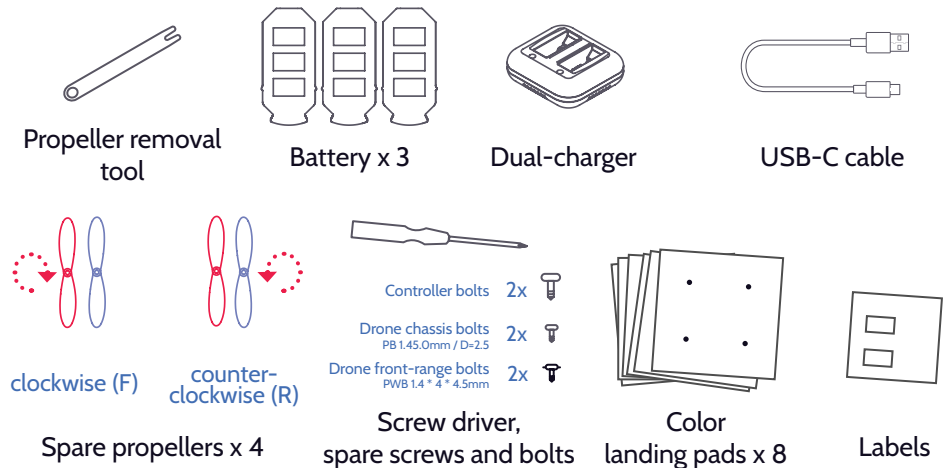
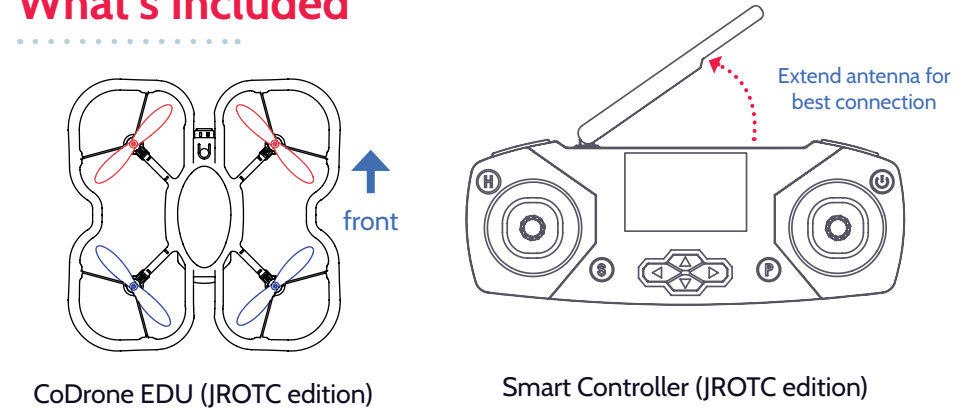


learn.robolink.com/codrone-edu

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What's Included



Before You Fly

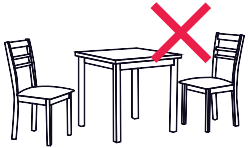
Whether you're new to drones or a seasoned pilot, we recommend reading through the following safety guidelines before using your CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition).



CAUTION

CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition) is designed for **indoor use** only. Rules for drone flight outdoors will vary depending on your location. The drone also cannot withstand wind. For those reasons, you should keep your drone indoors.

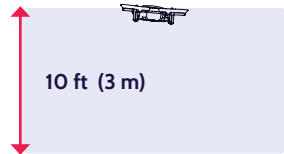
1 Check the environment



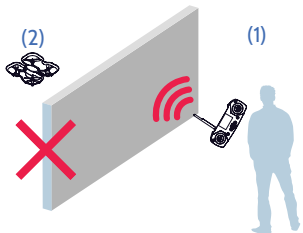
Designate an open area for flight without obstacles.



Put away fragile items and open liquids.

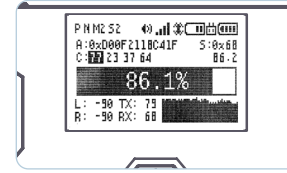


Try to keep your drone below 10 ft to avoid damage.



To maximize signal strength and safety, maintain line of sight between yourself/the controller (1) and the drone (2).

The signal has difficulty passing through people, glass, and walls.

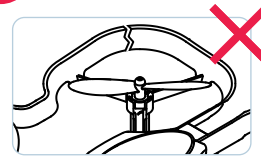


Your connection status screen will display your signal strength. Use **S** and **P** to change display mode screens in the remote control state.

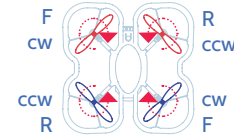


For best performance, avoid flying over dark carpets or highly reflective surfaces. Surfaces that are bright, flat, well-lit, and patterned will work best.

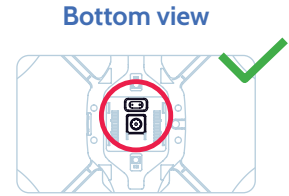
2 Check your drone



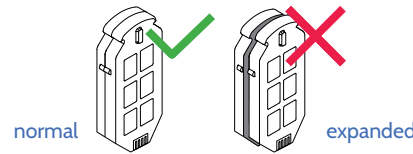
No major structural damage to motor arms or frame.



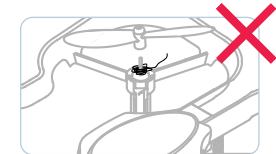
Propellers and motors are in the correct position (see page 18).



Bottom sensors are not obstructed.



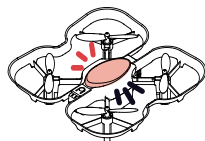
Drone battery has not expanded and has no signs of structural damage.



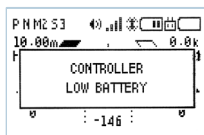
There is no debris beneath the propellers, and the propellers can spin freely.

Avoid flying when the drone or controller are on low battery.

Flight and signal stability will be less reliable when the battery is low.

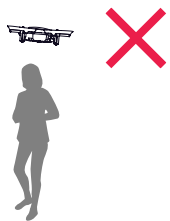


flashing red beeping sound

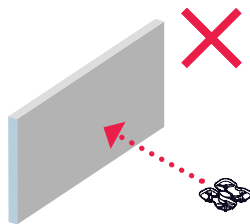


low battery message controller vibration

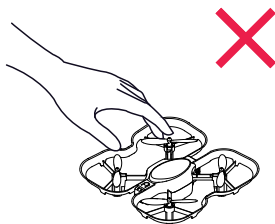
3 Know the rules of operation



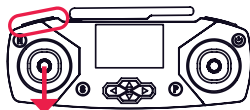
Do not fly over people.



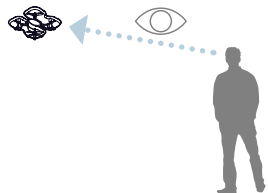
Do not fly at walls or at people.



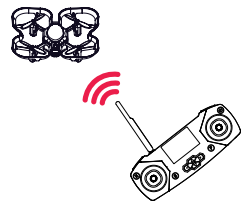
Keep hands, fingers, and other objects away from propellers.



If the drone crashes, shut off motors and avoid motor damage (see page 16).



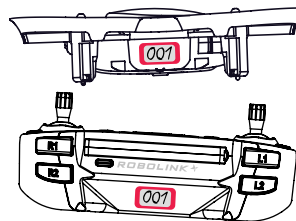
The pilot or a spotter should always maintain a visual on the drone.



Extend and point the antenna at the drone for best signal strength.

4 Label your drone

Side view



We've included a set of stickers for you to label your paired drone and controller. For example, you can label them with "001." That way, you'll know which drone and controller go together without powering them on.

This is especially important in classroom settings, or anywhere there are multiple drones and controllers.

5 Check your firmware

The drone and controller occasionally have firmware updates. We recommend updating to the latest version.

robolink.com/codrone-edu-jrotc-firmware

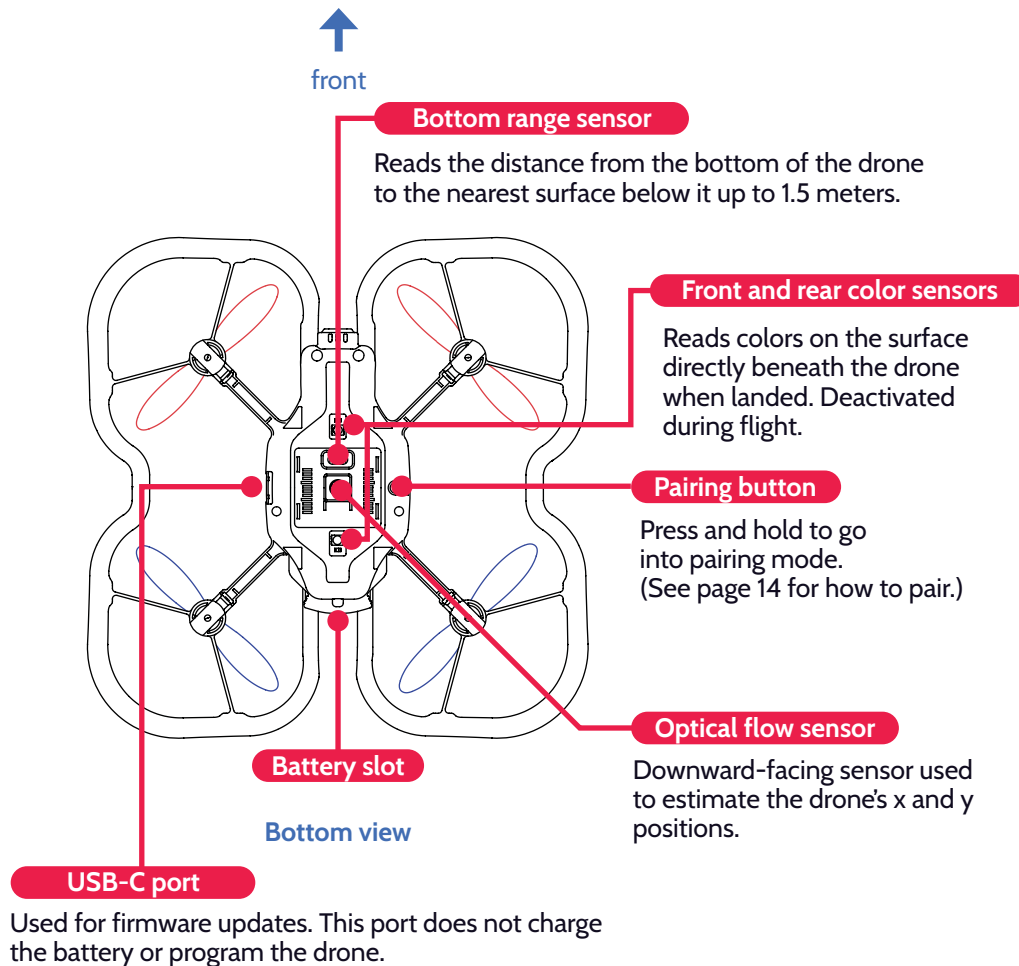
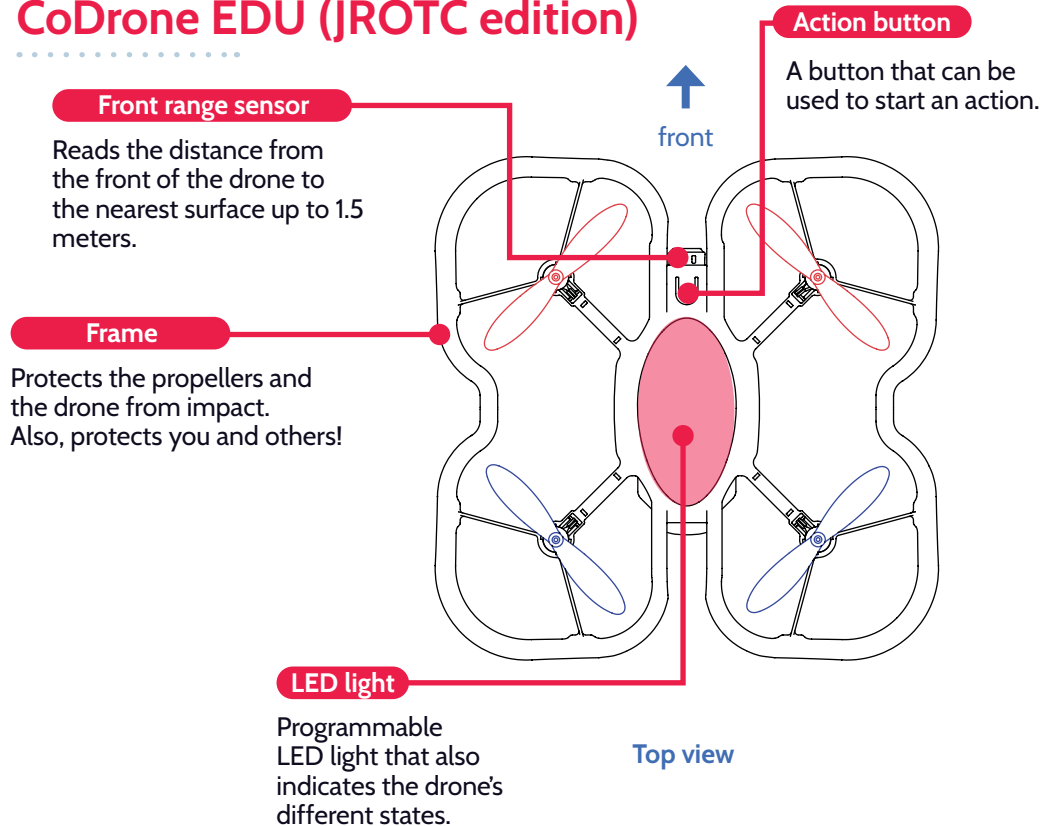


Complete safety guide

These steps only cover the basics for safe use of the CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition). If it's your first time flying, please read our complete safety guide.

robolink.com/codrone-edu-safety

Getting to Know Your CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition)



Getting to Know Your Controller

Using your controller, you can pilot your drone or connect your controller to your computer for coding. These are the controls for the controller while in the remote control state. For a complete video guide to the controller, visit:

robolink.com/codrone-edu-jrotc-controller

L1

Press: Change flight speed (30%, 70%, 100%).

Press and hold: Take off / Land.

H

Press: Turn LCD screen backlight on / off.

Press and hold: Return home during flight.

Left joystick

Left and right: Yaw (rotate left and right).

Up and down: Throttle (move up and down).

S

Press: Go to previous display mode screen.

Press and hold: Go to the Settings menu.



Antenna

Extend and point at drone for best connectivity.

USB-C port

Used for coding and controller firmware updates.

LCD screen

Displays drone information and settings. Can also be programmed with code.

R1

Press: Change LED color on drone and controller.

Press and hold: Prepare drone to flip during flight. Then, push the right joystick in the direction you want to flip.

Power button

Press: When connected to a computer by USB cable, this button switches between the remote control and LINK state, which is used for coding.

Press and hold: Power on / off.

USB light

A green flashing light means that the controller is receiving USB power. If a battery is inserted, it also means the battery is charging. A solid green light means it is fully charged.

Right joystick

Left and right: Roll (move left and right).

Up and down: Pitch (move forward and backward).

P

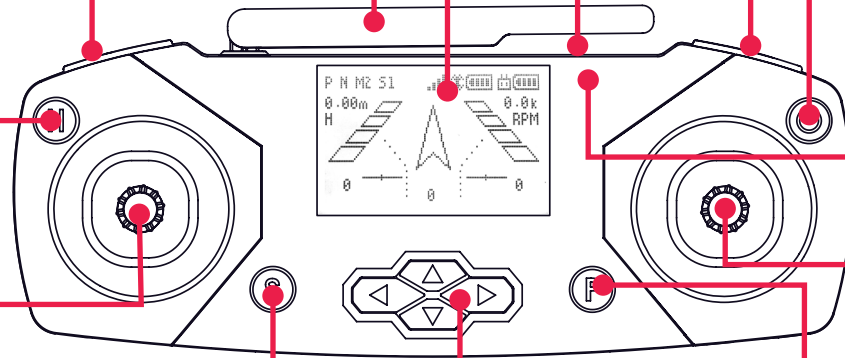
Press: Go to next display mode screen.

Press and hold: Pair.
(See page 14 for how to pair.)

Direction pad

If the drone begins to drift while flying, use the direction pad to trim (stabilize) it.

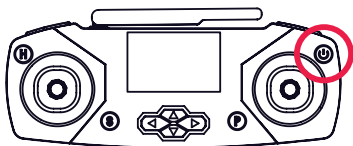
(See page 17 for how to trim.)





Powering On

Powering on the controller

The controller uses the same battery as the drone. Press and hold the  button for until you hear a chime to power on.

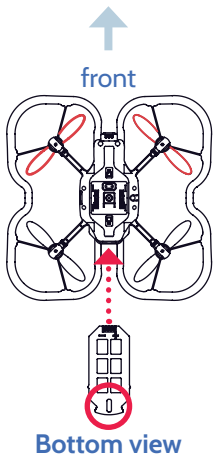


You can also use a USB-C cable to power the controller with a computer or external power source. If you want to pilot the drone, make sure the controller is not in the LINK state by pressing the .

To power off, press and hold the  button for 3 seconds or unplug the USB-C cable.

Powering on the drone

Power on the drone by inserting the battery into the battery slot. Note the **small tab** on one side of the battery. Insert the battery so that the side with the small tab is facing downward.



To power off the drone, grab the battery firmly and pull the battery out fully.

CAUTION

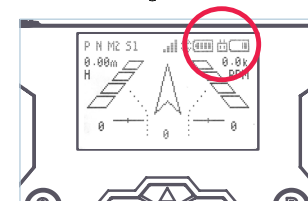
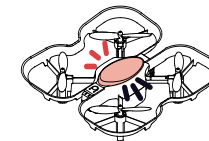


Practice safe battery use. Don't leave charging batteries unattended. Store batteries away from extreme heat or cold. This will help extend its lifetime. Do not charge or use a damaged or expanded battery. Discard lithium polymer batteries safely according to local e-waste guidelines.

Charging

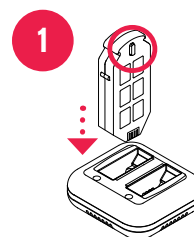
Low battery

You can check your drone and controller's battery levels on the LCD screen. When the drone battery is low, the **drone will beep, the LED will flash red, and the controller will vibrate.**



The battery can be charged while in the controller. Plug the controller into an external power source to charge the battery.

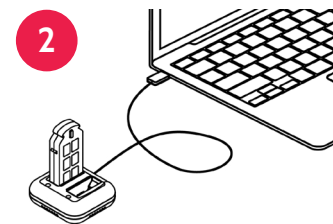
Charging the drone battery



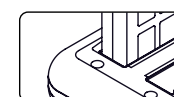
Insert the battery into the charger, with the **tab** facing towards the middle of the charger.



A solid red light means the battery is charging.



Plug the USB-C cable into the charger. Plug the other end into a power source, like a computer or external power source.



The light will turn off when the battery is fully charged.

TIP



When charging two batteries, make sure the power source can deliver 5 Volts, 2 Amps. USB-C "smart charging" is not supported.

If batteries appear not to be charging, try disconnecting and reconnecting the cable.

Pairing

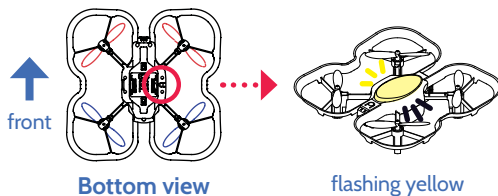
Your new drone and controller are **already paired out of the box**. If you want to pair the controller to another drone, you can pair by following these steps.

How to pair

Note, the drone and controller **only need to be paired once**. Once paired, they will pair automatically when powered on and within range.

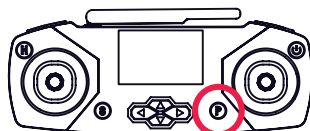
1 Put drone in pairing mode

Insert a battery into the drone. Press and hold the pairing button on the bottom of the drone until the drone LED is flashing yellow.




2 Press and hold P

Power on the controller. Make sure you aren't in the LINK state (see page 12), if your controller is connected to a computer. Press and hold the P button until you hear a chime.

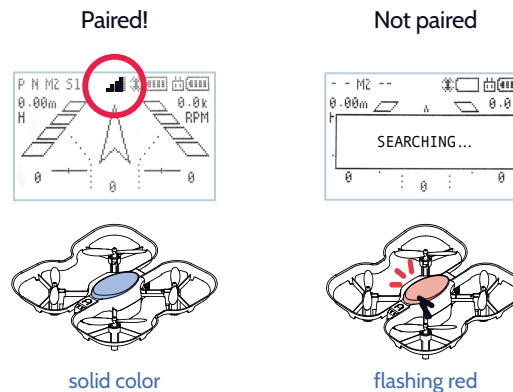


3 Verify that you're paired

You should hear a chime, and the lights on the drone and controller should turn solid. You should see a  symbol on the screen.

Verify that you are paired by pressing R1 a few times. The colors of the drone and controller should change together.

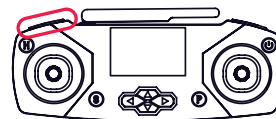
If the LED on your drone is **flashing red** and the controller screen says "Searching...", your drone and controller are not paired.



Using the Controller

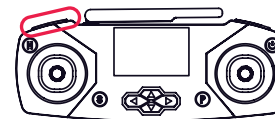
Here are a set of common commands you can use with the controller to pilot the drone.

Taking off, landing, stopping, and changing speed



Take off
Press and hold L1 for 3 seconds.

The drone will take off and hover at about **70-90 cm above ground**.

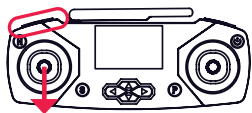
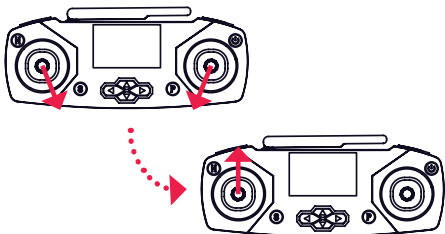


Land
During flight, press and hold L1 for 3 seconds.

Quick take off

To start the motors, push both joysticks downward, angling them toward the middle. Then, push up on the left joystick to take off.

This method will take off more quickly than the L1 method (see page 15).



Emergency Stop

Press and hold L1 and pull down on the left joystick.

Use this to shut the motors off immediately.



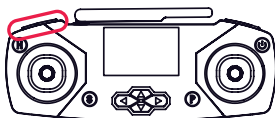
CAUTION

Whenever possible, press and hold L1 to land safely. However, if you've lost control of the drone, you can use Emergency Stop to shut off the motors. **Memorize Emergency Stop**, it will be useful if you lose control of the drone when testing code.

Using Emergency Stop from above 10 ft or at high speeds could damage your drone, so **use it sparingly**. It's always best to catch your drone whenever possible.

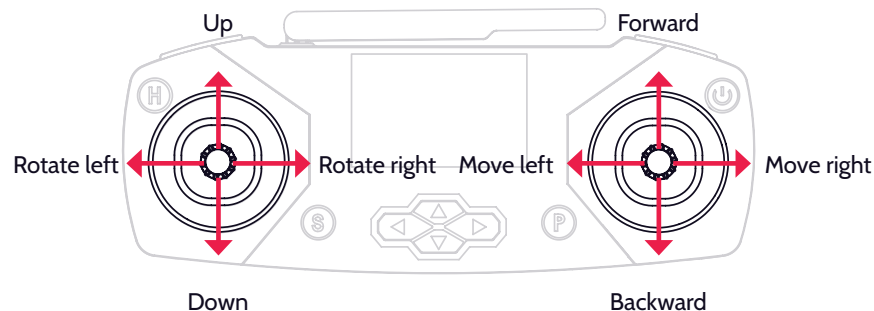
Change speed

Press L1 to change the speed between 30%, 70%, and 100%. The current speed is indicated in the screen's top left corner with S1, S2, and S3.



Movement during flight

While flying, these are the controls for the drone, using the joysticks. The following is using Mode 2 controls, which is the default.

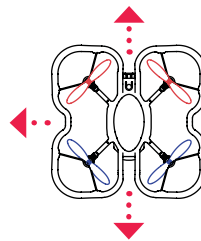


Trimming your drone

Drifting forward?
Press down



Drifting left?
Press right



Drifting right?
Press left

Drifting back?
Press up

Trimming to prevent drift
Use the direction pad buttons to trim the drone if it drifts when hovering.

Trim in the opposite direction that the drone is drifting.



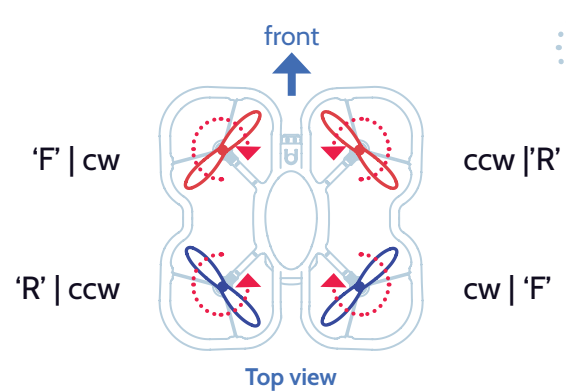
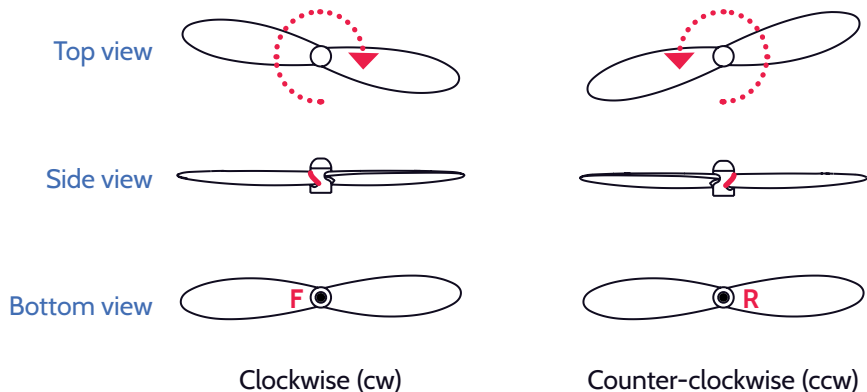
Complete controller guide

Take a look at our complete video guide about the controller:

robotlink.com/codrone-edu-jrotc-controller

Propellers

Your CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition) comes with 4 spare propellers. You can use the **propeller removal tool** to remove them. Propeller placement is important for the drone to fly correctly. There are **2 types of propellers**.



TIP

An easy way to remember the directions:

F for **fast forward**, so clockwise.

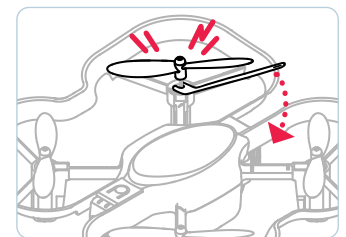
R for **rewind**, so counter-clockwise.

Please note, a **propeller's color does not indicate its rotation**. However, we recommend placing the red propellers at the front of the drone. This will help identify the front of the drone during flight.

Removing propellers

Propellers can be removed to clear out debris from under the propeller hub. A propeller should be replaced if it's bent, chipped, or cracked, and it begins affecting the drone's flight. Use the included **propeller removal tool** to remove the propeller.

Insert the fork-shaped end of the tool under the propeller hub, then push the handle

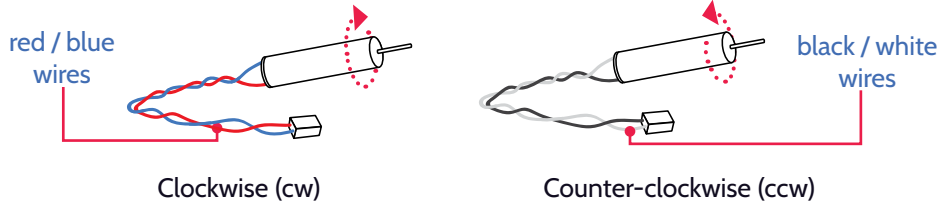


down, like a lever. The new propeller can be pushed onto the shaft of the motor. Be sure it's fully inserted, so it doesn't detach during flight.

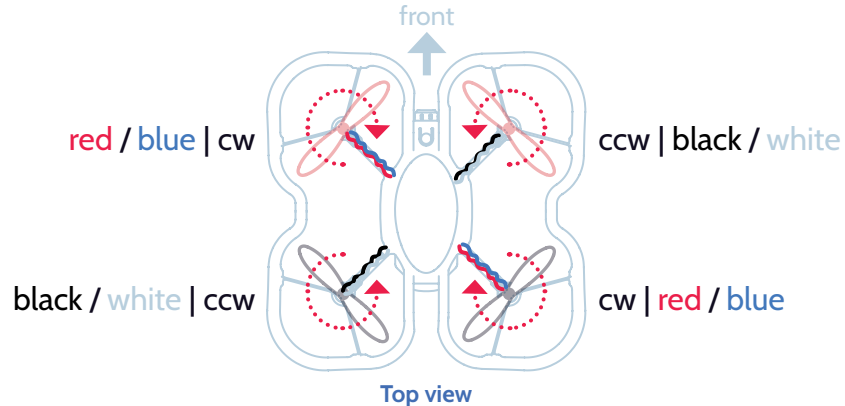
Make sure that the replacement propeller's rotation is correct, and perform a quick flight check.

Motors

Motor placement is also important for the CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition). Like propellers, there are **2 types of motors**, indicated by the color of the wires. Motor directions should match propeller directions.

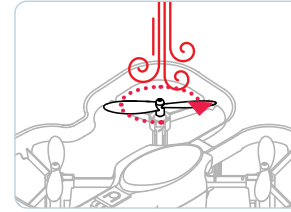


You can see the color of the motor wires by checking **underneath the arms of the drone frame**.

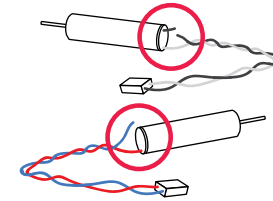


Inspecting motors

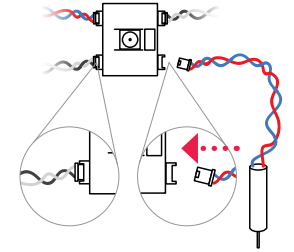
If your drone has issues flying, check propellers first. If the propellers don't seem to be the issue, check the motors. Motor issues usually result from hard crashes. Here are common signs that a motor should be replaced.



Blow on the attached propeller. Look for difficulty rotating or wobbling during rotation.



Check for breakages in the wiring. This can happen from hard crashes.



Remove the drone's bottom chassis. Then check if the motor is disconnected from the drone's board.

Replacing motors

Replacing motors is a more involved process, so we recommend carefully following our motor replacement video.

Replacement motors are sold separately.



robolink.com/codrone-edu-jrotc-motors

Troubleshooting

Here are some common issues you might encounter with the CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition), and how to address them.


- My drone drifts when it flies.**
1. Your drone may need trimming. Use the direction pad buttons to trim the drone. See page 17.
 2. The flooring may be interfering with the optical flow sensor. Try changing the environment or flying over a different surface. See page 5.

My drone and controller are blinking red. The drone and controller are probably un-paired. See page 14.

The controller is vibrating and my drone is beeping and flashing red If the drone flashing and controller vibrating is accompanied by a beeping sound on the drone, your drone battery is probably low. Land and replace your battery.

- The drone isn't flying after a crash.**
1. Check propellers for debris or damage. Replace if necessary. See page 18.
 2. Check for structural damage to motor wires and connectors. Replace if necessary. See page 20.
 3. The drone may have sustained damage to one of the flight sensors. Contact Robolink Help to diagnose.

The drone isn't responding to any of the controller buttons or joysticks.

If your controller is connected to a computer via USB, you're likely in the LINK state instead of the remote control state. Press the  button to switch to the remote control state. The LINK state is used for programming.

- One or more propellers are spinning but my drone is not taking off.**
1. Incorrect propeller or motor orientation may cause the drone to stay in place or behave erratically during take off. See page 18.
 2. Check motor wires for damage or disconnection that may be preventing the motor from turning on. See page 21.
 3. If the controller shows a "vibration" error, clean out the propeller hub and ensure the propeller is clean and spins freely without wobbling. Replace any motor or propeller as needed.

My battery isn't charging. Try disconnecting the USB-C cable and the battery. Then plug the battery back in first, then the USB-C cable.

Robolink Help

For more complete troubleshooting help, head over to Robolink Help, where we have dozens of articles and videos for common issues.

You can also use Robolink Help to reach out to us for technical support.



help.robolink.com

Tips for the Classroom

Follow these tips to keep your classroom environment safe and fun.



Divide your learning space into a “flight” area for drones and a “coding/piloting” area for people.



Tie up loose hair, put away plastic bags, and tuck away thin hanging items such as strings hanging from clothing or around the room. These can get caught in the propellers.



To avoid getting nicked by the propellers, never grab the drone body from above. Instead, only hold the drone by the guards or by the underside of its body.



To minimize wait time between flights, start class with at least 2 fully charged batteries per drone, and charge any depleted batteries immediately.



Keep depleted batteries and charged batteries in two separate bins, so batteries are organized and students can swap batteries quickly.

Learning to Code with CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition)

Now you know all the basics! To start learning how to code, head to our lessons:



learn.robolink.com/codrone-edu

Resources

Use these resources to help you on your journey learning to pilot and code with CoDrone EDU (JROTC edition).

For technical questions and help:

help.robolink.com

For library functions and documentation:

docs.robolink.com



How to update your drone and controller's firmware:

[robolink.com/codrone-edu-jrotc-firmware](https://www.robolink.com/codrone-edu-jrotc-firmware)



Learn about the Aerial Drone Competition:

[robolink.com/aerial-drone-competition](https://www.robolink.com/aerial-drone-competition)



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