

Micro Citabria RTF Instruction Manual





Radio System: 3-channel proportional, 2.4GHz Battery: 3.7V 70mAh Li-Po Wingspan: 16.5 in (420mm) Length: 13.25 in (335mm) Flying Weight: 0.75 oz (21 g)



Micro Citabria RTF Instruction Manual

Congratulations on your purchase of the ParkZone[®] Micro Citabria RTF airplane. Your Micro Citabria comes pre-assembled with everything needed to get you in the air – all in one box! You only need to charge the flight battery prior to your first flight. In as little as 30 minutes, you can be ready to fly. This means you can spend your time refining your flying and not your building skills. Your ParkZone Micro Citabria will allow you to perform many aerobatic maneuvers, all in an area the size of half a basketball court!

We at ParkZone are committed to giving you the most enjoyable flight experience possible. In order to have a safe and successful flight, we ask that you do not fly until you have read these instructions thoroughly.

Your Micro Citabria features the latest in ultra sub-micro technology, including a 2.4GHz fully proportional 3–channel radio system with full control of throttle, rudder and elevator. Your Micro Citabria also comes complete with the latest in lightweight electronic speed control technology, two linear servos, a 3.7V 70mAh Li-Po flight battery and a convenient charger.

Warning

Though your ParkZone Micro Citabria comes ready to fly, this aircraft is for experienced RC pilots only and is not a toy. It can cause serious bodily harm and damage to property!

FCC Statement

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Caution!

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Step 1

Transmitter

Your ParkZone Micro Citabra airplane comes with a fully proportional (Mode 2) 3-channel radio system that includes digital trims. In this configuration, the left stick controls throttle, while the right stick controls elevator and rudder.

- 1. Insert the 4 AA batteries that are included with the package into the transmitter.
- 2. Turn the switch on to ensure the batteries have been installed correctly. When the batteries are installed correctly, the LED on the transmitter should glow brightly. When the transmitter makes a repeated "beep" sound, it is time to replace the transmitter batteries.

Binding Process

Your ParkZone 2.4GHz radio system uses a unique binding operation to link your transmitter with your receiver. Please note that your radio system has been bound for you already. Should you need to replace a transmitter or your aircraft, you will need to perform the binding process as detailed below:

- 1. Make sure your transmitter is powered off and the battery has been removed from your Micro Citabria.
- 2. With the transmitter powered off, push down on the throttle stick (left stick) and then turn the transmitter power on. Release the throttle stick.



- 3. You will hear a series of beeps from the transmitter. Plug the battery into the airplane at this time.
- 4. A series of 3 beeps will be heard while the radio is attempting to bind. Move the right stick in any direction at this time to complete the binding process. You are then ready to fly.

Step 2

Charging the Aircraft Battery

The included charger uses unique circuitry that ensures an accurate charge for the 3.7V 70mAh battery pack every time. It also protects the battery from being over-charged, which can damage the battery pack. The charger sequence begins with charging at constant current, then later switches to constant voltage.

To charge your ParkZone 3.7V 70mAh battery:

- 1. Install four of the included AA batteries in the charger base, noting proper polarity.
- 2. Slide the battery into the charge slot on the display stand.
- 3. Gently press the battery into the charging jack in the bottom of the slot. The LED light on the base will turn solid red.
- 4. The battery will charge in approximately 20 minutes when nearly depleted.
- 5. As the battery nears fully charged, the LED will begin to blink. When fully charged, the LED will blink once every 20 seconds.
- 6. You can expect to be able to charge the flight battery about 15–20 times before it will become necessary to replace the 4 AA batteries. Replacing with alkaline batteries will extend the AA battery life.





Step 3

Motor Test

- 1. Make sure the throttle stick is down in the "Off" position.
- 2. Turn on the transmitter.
- 3. Plug the flight battery into the white lead in the fuselage. This must be done carefully to avoid accidentally reversing the polarity and causing damage to the ESC and battery.



- 4. Secure the flight battery by gently pressing the battery pack against the hook and loop material on the underside of the fuselage.
- 5. Advance the throttle forward and the propeller should spin at a high speed. (**CAUTION:** Make sure that you keep everything away from the propeller at all times.)
- 6. When finished with the motor test, continue to Flight Control Test on the next page.
- 7. You may notice there is quite a bit of down thrust when looking at the prop/prop shaft. This is intentional and is not a sign of damage.

Adult Supervision Required

Warning: Keep everything clear of the propeller and hold the plane securely. A moving propeller can cause severe injury.



Step 4

Flight Control Test

Warning: Keep everything clear of the propeller before starting the control test in the event that you accidentally turn on the motor.

- 1. Be certain that the throttle stick is down in the "Off" position.
- 2. Move the right stick from side to side. The rudder should move per your transmitter input.



3. Move the right stick full forward. When this is done, the elevator control surface should move down.





4. Pull the right stick back and the elevator control surface should move upward.





5. If your airplane is not responding correctly to the transmitter input, do not fly! Some correction is needed. Call the Horizon Support Team at 1-877-504-0233.

6. When the test is complete, be sure to disconnect the flight battery first, then turn off the transmitter. This should be done each time you turn off the airplane.

Note: It is very important to make sure that the control surfaces (rudder and elevator) are at 0 degrees, or neutral, when the right transmitter stick is centered.



Making Adjustments to the Control Surfaces

- 1. Any changes necessary to bring both the rudder and elevator to neutral (zero degrees) when the right transmitter stick is centered, should be possible using the digital trim buttons.
- 2. If you find this is not the case, do not fly until this has been corrected.
- 3. If corrections are needed, you may have to adjust the length of the pushrod by gently stretching or pinching the bend in the control wire as necessary. You can also change the hole of the control horn the pushrod goes into to achieve more control. We suggest you fly it first as it has come from the factory and then only move "in" one hole at a time.



Flying

Choose a Large, Open Flying Site

Always choose a wide-open space for flying your ParkZone Micro Citabria. It is ideal for you to fly in an indoor location with a floor area of 40' x 40' and and a minimum ceiling height of 20 feet. We suggest that first flights are done in a larger area, such as in a basketball court or gymnasium.

If you choose to make your flights outdoors, the conditions MUST be COMPLETELY CALM. The Micro Citabria weighs less than 1 ounce and can easily be blown away. If you choose to fly outdoors, remember to always keep the plane upwind from you to avoid flyaways.

Make certain that you do not fly near trees, buildings, or other areas that can restrict your view or interfere with your flying.

Step 7

Range Test

You will need two people to perform the range test: one to hold the plane and the other to give transmitter input.

Warning: The person holding the plane should hold it in a way so that the propeller does not come in contact with any part of their clothing or body.

- 1. One person holds the transmitter, while the other person walks 50-100 paces away with the airplane.
- 2. Be sure the throttle is in the "Off" position.
- 3. Turn the transmitter on.
- 4. Plug the airplane battery into the fuselage.
- 5. As soon as the throttle slider is advanced, the propeller should spin quickly.
- 6. As the first person moves the transmitter controls at the same time, the other person watches to be sure the airplane's motor and tail controls operate smoothly.

Step 8

Seek Assistance from an Experienced Radio Control Pilot

VERY IMPORTANT

The 3-channel control system is designed for the experienced radio control pilot and is not intended for the first-time flier. It is best to have HobbyZone[®] Zone 2 experience. First-time pilots of the ParkZone Micro Citabria should seek the assistance of an experienced RC flier until the additional third channel, pitch control, has been competently mastered. Crash damage is not covered under the warranty.

Step 9

Hand Launching the Micro Citabria

- 1. Make certain that the aircraft battery is fully charged.
- 2. Turn on the transmitter.
- 3. Plug in the aircraft battery
- 4. Test the motor and surface controls.
- 5. While holding the transmitter in one hand, push the throttle stick to full throttle (up) with thumb.
- 6. Launch using light force. Keep the wings level. Do not throw it up or down. Point it level (parallel) with the ground when releasing.

Step 10

Runway Takeoff

- 1. Prior to attempting a runway takeoff, you should have had several successful flights of hand launching the Micro Citabria.
- 2. Make certain the aircraft battery is fully charged.
- 3. Turn on transmitter.
- 4. Plug in aircraft battery.
- 5. Stand behind the Micro Citabria. Make certain you are on a smooth surface such as concrete or wood.
- 6. Apply full throttle and adjust the left or right stick so that you keep your Micro Citabria on its intended path.
- 7. If the battery is fully charged, you should be able to lift off the ground in a few feet. As you notice the back of the plane beginning to lift a bit off the ground, apply some "up" elevator by pulling back on the right stick. Do not give too much "up" elevator, or you can cause the airplane to enter into a stall.

Step 11

Flying

- 1. After launching, your Micro Citabria will climb at full throttle. Keep the throttle full on until you have reached a safe altitude. At this same time, make sure that you are continuing to keep the airplane directed into the wind.
- 2. Make right and left adjustments as necessary to keep the plane headed on its intended path. After you have reached 4–6 feet of altitude, you can begin to make directional changes that you desire.
- 3. Remember the Micro Citabria is a small, lightweight aircraft. Do not allow the plane to get too far away from you. When the plane is farther away from you it is harder to see and could cause you to lose orientation.
- 4. Avoid holding the stick full right or left for more than two seconds, as this will cause the plane to enter a spiral and could threaten your Micro Citabria.
- 5. Do not try to climb too fast by pulling all the way back on the stick (up elevator), or your plane may enter into a stall. Instead, climb by giving small amounts of elevator.
- 6. Damage/bends to the wings or tail can greatly affect flight control. Repair or replace the damaged parts immediately.

Sharp Turns

In order to make a sharper turn, move the stick in the desired direction and add some up elevator (pull back on stick). The plane will make a sharper banking turn.

Note: With the throttle set at low or off (gliding), the plane will not turn as fast as when you are flying at or near full throttle.

Rudder Trim

If the model wants to constantly turn one direction, use the digital trim buttons to correct. Your Micro Citabria should fly straight with the control stick at neutral.

Elevator Trim

If your Micro Citabria wants to go up or down, use the digital trim buttons located at the left of the right control stick to correct. The model should fly straight with the control stick at neutral and should have a steady, shallow climb at full throttle.

Step 12

Throttle Adjustment

- 1. Climb to an altitude of 10–12 feet with full throttle.
- 2. To achieve and maintain a level "cruising" altitude, reduce the power by moving the throttle stick down to approximately 50% of full-on. The throttle stick is proportional, so you can add or reduce throttle in small increments as needed to maintain the altitude that you desire.
- 3. To reduce altitude, reduce throttle.
- 4. To increase altitude, increase throttle.



Using Elevator

Your Micro Citabria is equipped with a third channel for elevator (pitch control). Pulling back on the stick provides up elevator. This allows for shorter takeoffs, better flares for landing, better climb rates, and more effective turns. However, pulling too far back on the elevator to climb too quickly will cause the airplane to enter a stall (make the nose of the plane come down).

To avoid crashing from a stall, always maintain enough altitude to recover.

Just after a stall has occurred, the nose of the airplane will fall and the plane will look like it is diving. To pull out of a stall, simply pull back slowly on the stick (partial up elevator) once your Micro Citabria has built up airspeed. Remember, pulling back too quickly or for too long will once again cause the airplane to enter a stall. Effectively avoiding and recovering from stalls requires experience. Always seek the help of an experienced radio control pilot if you are not familiar with pitch control. Failure to do so, could result in a crash and significant damage to your airplane.

Step 14

Landing Your Micro Citabria

When you begin to notice that your Micro Citabria no longer climbs well under full power (normally after approximately 10–15 minutes), the battery is getting low and it is time to land. Bring in your Cessna toward the desired landing spot. Gradually reduce throttle (as well as giving a small amount of down elevator if you choose) to reach an altitude of approximately 4 feet. At this point, reduce even more throttle and your Micro Citabria should glide in softly for a landing.

Note: Your Micro Citabria should be landed on a smooth surface (such as concrete or wood) so that the landing gear can work effectively.

Expert Tip: As you get better and more experienced at flying, try adding a bit of "up" elevator just prior to landing to "flare" the plane. With some practice, your landings should become smooth and on target.

Warning: Do not attempt to catch the airplane or injury may occur. Remember, there is a spinning propeller on the front of the plane that can cause injury! Also, remember to cut power to the motor right before you land to prevent damage to the propeller.

Warranty Period:

Exclusive Warranty- Horizon Hobby, Inc., (Horizon) warranties that the Products purchased (the "Product") will be free from defects in materials and workmanship at the date of purchase by the Purchaser.

Limited Warranty

(a) This warranty is limited to the original Purchaser ("Purchaser") and is not transferable. REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY OF THE PURCHASER. This warranty covers only those Products purchased from an authorized Horizon dealer. Third party transactions are not covered by this warranty. Proof of purchase is required for warranty claims. Further, Horizon reserves the right to change or modify this warranty without notice and disclaims all other warranties, express or implied.

(b) Limitations- HORIZON MAKES NO WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, ABOUT NON-INFRINGEMENT, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF THE PRODUCT. THE PURCHASER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THEY ALONE HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE PRODUCT WILL SUITABLY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PURCHASER'S INTENDED USE.

(c) Purchaser Remedy- Horizon's sole obligation hereunder shall be that Horizon will, at its option, (i) repair or (ii) replace, any Product determined by Horizon to be defective. In the event of a defect, these are the Purchaser's exclusive remedies. Horizon reserves the right to inspect any and all equipment involved in a warranty claim. Repair or replacement decisions are at the sole discretion of Horizon. This warranty does not cover cosmetic damage or damage due to acts of God, accident, misuse, abuse, negligence, commercial use, or modification of or to any part of the Product. This warranty does not cover damage due to improper installation, operation, maintenance, or attempted repair by anyone other than Horizon. Return of any goods by Purchaser must be approved in writing by Horizon before shipment.

Damage Limits:

HORIZON SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, LOSS OF PROFITS OR PRODUCTION OR COMMERCIAL LOSS IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH THE PRODUCT, WHETHER SUCH CLAIM IS BASED IN CONTRACT, WARRANTY, NEGLIGENCE, OR STRICT LIABILITY. Further, in no event shall the liability of Horizon exceed the individual price of the Product on which liability is asserted. As Horizon has no control over use, setup, final assembly, modification or misuse, no liability shall be assumed nor accepted for any resulting damage or injury. By the act of use, setup or assembly, the user accepts all resulting liability. If you as the Purchaser or user are not prepared to accept the liability associated with the use of this Product, you are advised to return this Product immediately in new and unused condition to the place of purchase.

Law: These Terms are governed by Illinois law (without regard to conflict of law principals).

Safety Precautions:

This is a sophisticated hobby Product and not a toy. It must be operated with caution and common sense and requires some basic mechanical ability. Failure to operate this Product in a safe and responsible manner could result in injury or damage to the Product or other property. This Product is not intended for use by children without direct adult supervision. The Product manual contains instructions for safety, operation and maintenance. It is essential to read and follow all the instructions and warnings in the manual, prior to assembly, setup or use, in order to operate correctly and avoid damage or injury.

Questions, Assistance, and Repairs:

Your local hobby store and/or place of purchase cannot provide warranty support or repair. Once assembly, setup or use of the Product has been started, you must contact Horizon directly. This will enable Horizon to better answer your questions and service you in the event that you may need any assistance. For questions or assistance, please direct your email to productsupport@horizonhobby.com, or call 877.504.0233 toll free to speak to a service technician.

Inspection or Repairs

If this Product needs to be inspected or repaired, please call for a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA). Pack the Product securely using a shipping carton. Please note that original boxes may be included, but are not designed to withstand the rigors of shipping without additional protection. Ship via a carrier that provides tracking and insurance for lost or damaged parcels, as **Horizon is not responsible for merchandise until it arrives and is accepted at our facility**. A Service Repair Request is available at www.horizonhobby.com on the "Support" tab. If you do not have internet access, please include a letter with your complete name, street address, email address and phone number where you can be reached during business days, your RMA number, a list of the included items, method of payment for any non-warranty expenses and a brief summary of the problem. Your original sales receipt must also be included for warranty consideration. Be sure your name, address, and RMA number are clearly written on the outside of the shipping carton.

Warranty Inspection and Repairs

To receive warranty service, you must include your original sales receipt verifying the proof-of-purchase date. Provided warranty conditions have been met, your Product will be repaired or replaced free of charge. Repair or replacement decisions are at the sole discretion of Horizon Hobby.

Non-Warranty Repairs

Should your repair not be covered by warranty the repair will be completed and payment will be required without notification or estimate of the expense unless the expense exceeds 50% of the retail purchase cost. By submitting the item for repair you are agreeing to payment of the repair without notification. Repair estimates are available upon request. You must include this request with your repair. Non-warranty repair estimates will be billed a minimum of ½ hour of labor. In addition you will be billed for return freight. Please advise us of your preferred method of payment. Horizon accepts money orders and cashiers checks, as well as Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover cards. If you choose to pay by credit card, please include your credit card number and expiration date. Any repair left unpaid or unclaimed after 90 days will be considered abandoned and will be disposed of accordingly. Please note: non-warranty repair is only available on electronics and model engines.

Electronics and engines requiring inspection or repair should be shipped to the following address:

Horizon Service Center

4105 Fieldstone Road

Champaign, Illinois 61822

All other Products requiring warranty inspection or repair should be shipped to the following address:

Horizon Product Support 4105 Fieldstone Road Champaign, Illinois 61822

Please call 877-504-0233 with any questions or concerns regarding this product or warranty.

Replacement Parts

Make sure that you keep your Micro Citabria flying. Replacement parts are available at your local hobby shop or from Horizon Hobby (www.horizonhobby.com). Please try your local hobby shop first. By supporting them, they will be there when you need them!

Item #:	Description:	Retail
PKZ3001	3.7V 70mAh Li-Po Battery: Cessna 210, Citabria	\$8.99
PKZ3102	Propeller w/Spinner: Citabria	\$2.99
PKZ3103	Decal Sheet: Citabria (Red)	\$3.49
PKZ3108	Decal Sheet: Citabria (Blue)	\$3.49
PKZ3109	Decal Sheet: Citabria (Yellow)	\$3.49
PKZ3106	Nose Gear Set: Citabria	\$3.49
PKZ3107	Main Gear Set: Citabria	\$4.99
PKZ3115	Instruction Manual: Citabria	\$0.99
PKZ3116	Main Motor: Citabria	\$8.99
PKZ3120	Main Wing: Citabria	\$8.99
PKZ3124	Tail Wing w/Accessories: Citabria	\$6.99
PKZ3128	Gear Box w/Motor: Citabria	513.99
PKZ3140	Charger & Stand: Citabria	524.99
PKZ3041	Transmitter: Cessna 210, Citabria	59.99
PKZ3151	Receiver: Citabria	59.99
PKZ3161	Fuselage w/Elec, Motor, Rx: Citabria	574.99
PKZ3167	Bare Fuselage: Citabria	\$8.99

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