



## **Australian Government**

---

### **Civil Aviation Safety Authority**

#### **Flying for fun video transcript**

Australians love their drones.

In fact, there are more drones being flown above backyards, parks, and beaches than ever before.

More drones in the sky means it's important that we all understand the rules that keep you and others around you safe, on the ground and in the air.

Here are the rules that you need to know before take-off.

When your drone is up in the air, you can never fly your drone over anyone. This includes places like festivals, sporting events, populated beaches, roads, cars, and pedestrians on footpaths.

And when there are people around, your drone has to be at least 30 metres away from them, unless the other person is helping control or navigate the drone.

You can only fly one drone at a time, and that drone can't go any higher than 120 metres — that's 400 feet or about the length of a football field.

Near airports and helicopter landing sites, there is increased air traffic and strict rules about where and when you can fly your drone.

If your drone weighs more than 250 grams, you must fly at least 5.5 kilometres away from a controlled airport, which generally have a control tower at them. You must not fly in the approach or departure path of a runway which extends up to 7 kilometres from the airport. Between 7 and 8.5 kilometres of the approach and departure path, you can fly up to a height of 90 metres.

If your drone weighs 250 grams or less, you can fly up to a height of 45 metres within 5.5 kilometres of a controlled airport. You must not fly:

- in the approach or departure paths of a runway
- within the boundary or
- in a way that creates a hazard to other aircraft taking off or landing.

If you're near an airport without a control tower, you can fly your drone within 5.5 kilometres. You can only do this if crewed aircraft are not operating in the area.

If you become aware of crewed aircraft nearby, including any taking -off, landing or taxiing on the ground, you must not launch your drone. If you are already in the air, you must manoeuvre away and land as quickly and safely as possible.

A helicopter landing site (HLS) is a designated location used by helicopters for taking off and landing.

You can also fly your drone within 1.4 kilometres of a helicopter landing site. If you become aware of a helicopter nearby, you must not launch your drone. If you are already in the air, manoeuvre away and land as quickly as possible.

Drones aren't nocturnal creatures. You can only fly your drone during daylight hours.

You must keep it within your visual line-of-sight, and you must not fly through smoke, cloud or fog. This means being able to navigate, orientate and see your drone with your own eyes at all times — not solely through a device like a video screen or using goggles.

And you can't fly your drone over or near an area affecting public safety or where emergency operations are underway. This applies to situations like road accidents, bushfires, firefighting efforts, police activity, and search and rescue. If drones do get in the way in these situations, lives may be put at risk.

Breaking the rules can also land you in trouble. You can be fined or even taken to Court.

Drones are fun, and by following these simple rules, we can all enjoy the air together.

For more information about where you can and can't fly, go to CASA's website and download a CASA-verified app.

**ENDS**