



Jeff Troy

Flight Report

Blade CX2

It's a full makeover — Blade CX RTF goes from top model to super model!

How can you make your bestselling RC helicopter model better? When you're E-flite, you understand that electric model technology advances by the hour, and your bestselling model today may face tougher competition tomorrow. E-flite hit the design boards to see how their amazingly successful Blade CX could be improved. They took a few new ideas and went to work, and the result of their effort is the most complete and easiest to operate RC helicopter I've flown to date, the Blade CX2 RTF.

Improvements range from visual to electronic. In the visual department, the CX2 wears a two-piece, bright red, full fuselage. The quick-release forward section remains, although it's a much curvier design. A matching rear covers the tail boom and incorporates a shapely skid, replacing the original's thin plastic post.

The 4-in-1 control unit has been updated by improving the gyro and tail control functions. Drift is minimized and the model really tracks nicely. The Blade CX's S-75 servos have been replaced by E-flite's new S-60



Super Sub-Micro servos, which weigh slightly less and provide improved response time to control commands.

When it comes to control commands, you'll see a big leap forward for the Blade CX2. While the RC system in the Blade is trouble free and reliable, the CX2 goes all out by installing a Spektrum 2.4GHz technology system that uses no frequency crystals. You just turn the transmitter on, plug the 800mAh LiPo battery into the speed control and the RC system's spread spectrum technology finds two open frequencies out of something like two billion or so that are usually available on 2.4GHz.

The new 2.4GHz spread spectrum frequency technology is reliable, and it has a lot more to offer than eliminating crystals and those accidental "no pin" shoot-downs. This technology operates in a range that is "miles" above 72mHz, and this higher range does not hear glitch-causing nuisances like metal-to-metal noise, ignition or any other mechanical "modeling" noise.



E-flite's Blade CX2 comes with a Spektrum 2.4GHz RC system, an 800mAh LiPo battery and a DC balance charger with an AC adapter. A 48-page manual and an instructional DVD are also included in this full-feature package.

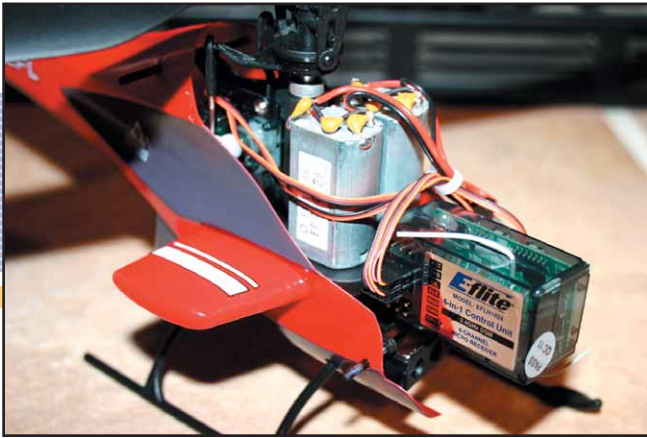


RTF Specifications

- Rotor Diameter: 13.6 inches
- Length: 16.42 inches
- Weight: 8 ounces with battery
- Motors: 180 brushed (2)
- RC system: Spektrum 2.4GHz five-channel transmitter with DSM six-channel receiver and two super sub micro servos

RTF Package Includes

- Fully assembled CX2 helicopter
- Factory-installed 2.4GHz RC system
- Factory-installed motors
- Factory-painted polycarb fuselage
- 800mAh LiPo flight battery
- DC balance charger and AC adapter
- 8 AA alkaline transmitter batteries
- 48-page manual and DVD overview



4-in-1 Control Unit has improved gyro for greater tail control and less drift. S-60 Super Sub Micro Servos are light and fast.

In addition to the comprehensive 48-page instruction manual and 15-minute DVD instructional presentation, the CX2 comes with eight AA alkaline batteries for the transmitter, and a compact DC balance LiPo battery charger with a convenient plug-in AC adapter for the 7.4V, 800mAh LiPo motor pack. Other than some minimal experience, there is not one single item a modeler needs to fly the CX2 that does not come inside the box.

So what happens when you make your first attempt at hovering? Most likely, instant success. As I stood there hovering my CX2 while my wife shot the photos, we remembered selling RC helicopters to beginners in the early 1980's. My comment to Lisa was, "Can you believe this? It's amazing. I'm actually hovering a helicopter in



The heart of the Blade CX2's success is its simple head and dual coaxial rotor system. The machine practically flies itself.

our living room, and you're not running and ducking for your life!" Matter of fact, she never batted an eye or even questioned that the model would be flown so easily.

The CX2 is solid as a rock and will hover hands off when properly trimmed. Forward flight is slow and precise, giving beginners plenty of think time as the learning curve narrows — and anxiety quickly turns to smiles.

For more information about the Blade CX2, see the ads on pages, 6, 7 and 57, visit www.horizonhobby.com or call Horizon Hobby in Illinois at 800-535-5551. **HM**



Jeff Troy hovers E-flite' Blade CX2 RTF in an extremely tight area, the living room. Rock-solid CX2 will hover hands off when trimmed.