E-flite EFLA500

E-flite 25-Size Fiberglass ARF Floats

Instruction Manual

Model: EFLA500

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the assembly, operation, and maintenance of your E-flite 25-Size Fiberglass ARF Floats. These floats are designed to convert compatible remote-controlled aircraft into seaplanes, allowing for operations from water surfaces. Please read this manual thoroughly before beginning assembly or operation to ensure safe and correct usage.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Operating RC aircraft, especially from water, requires adherence to strict safety guidelines. Failure to follow these instructions can result in property damage or serious injury.

- Always operate your RC aircraft in open areas, away from people, buildings, and other obstacles.
- Ensure all components are securely attached and in good working order before each flight.
- Never attempt to retrieve a downed aircraft from water without proper safety equipment and assistance.
- Be aware of wind and water conditions. Do not operate in strong currents or high winds.
- Keep hands and loose clothing away from propellers when the aircraft is powered.
- Store floats and aircraft in a dry, safe place when not in use.

PARTS LIST

The E-flite 25-Size Fiberglass ARF Floats kit includes the following components:

Image: All components included in the E-flite 25-Size Fiberglass ARF Floats kit. This includes two fiberglass float bodies, a wire strut assembly, water rudder, mounting hardware, and control linkage.

- Two (2) Fiberglass Float Bodies
- One (1) Wire Strut Assembly
- One (1) Water Rudder
- Mounting Hardware (screws, nuts, washers, mounting blocks)
- Control Linkage for Water Rudder

Please inspect all parts upon receipt to ensure nothing is missing or damaged. Contact your retailer if any components are missing.

SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

While the floats themselves are Almost-Ready-to-Fly (ARF), some assembly and careful installation onto your aircraft are required. Refer to your aircraft's manual for specific mounting points and recommendations.

Tools Required (Not Included):

- Small Phillips Head Screwdriver
- Pliers
- Hobby Knife or Scissors
- Epoxy or CA Glue (as needed for specific aircraft mounting)

Assembly Steps:

1. **Attach Mounting Blocks:** Secure the provided mounting blocks to the top surface of each float body using the small screws. Ensure they are aligned correctly for the strut assembly.

2. **Install Strut Assembly:** Insert the wire strut assembly into the mounting blocks on both float bodies. The struts should form a stable, rigid connection between the two floats. Tighten any set screws or fasteners to secure the struts.

Image: The E-flite 25-Size Fiberglass ARF Floats fully assembled, showing the two float bodies connected by the wire strut assembly.

3. **Mount Water Rudder:** Attach the water rudder to the rear of one of the floats. Ensure it pivots freely and is aligned with the float's centerline.

4. **Connect Water Rudder Linkage:** Connect the water rudder to your aircraft's steering servo (typically shared with the main rudder servo) using the provided linkage. Adjust the linkage for proper throw and neutral position.

5. **Attach Floats to Aircraft:** Securely mount the assembled float system to the underside of your RC aircraft. This typically involves attaching the strut assembly to existing landing gear mounts or custom-fabricated hard points on the fuselage. Ensure the floats are parallel to the fuselage and level with the ground when the aircraft is at rest. The center of gravity of the aircraft with floats should be checked and adjusted as per your aircraft's manual.

Image: A yellow RC aircraft equipped with the E-flite floats, resting on the water surface, ready for operation.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Operating an RC seaplane requires practice and understanding of water dynamics. Always perform a range check before flying.

Pre-Flight Checks:

- Verify all float mounting points are secure.
- Check water rudder movement and linkage.

- Inspect floats for any damage or leaks.
- Ensure the flight battery is fully charged and secured.
- Check wind and water conditions. Avoid choppy water or strong currents.

Water Taxiing:

Use small throttle inputs and rudder corrections to maneuver the aircraft on the water. Avoid high speeds during taxiing to prevent nose-overs or excessive spray.

Takeoff:

1. Position the aircraft into the wind.
2. Apply throttle smoothly and progressively. The aircraft will gain speed, and the floats will begin to plane on the water surface.
3. As speed increases, apply slight up-elevator to lift the nose, then release to allow the floats to plane efficiently.
4. Once sufficient speed is achieved, apply gentle up-elevator to lift off the water.

Image: A yellow RC aircraft with E-flite floats accelerating on the water, creating a spray as it prepares for takeoff.

Image: A yellow RC aircraft in stable flight, viewed from below, showcasing the E-flite floats attached to its underside.

Landing:

1. Approach the landing area into the wind, reducing throttle.

2. Maintain a shallow descent angle.

3. Aim for a smooth touchdown, allowing the floats to gently contact the water surface. Avoid a hard impact.

4. Once on the water, reduce throttle to idle and use the water rudder for steering back to shore.

Image: A yellow RC aircraft with E-flite floats flying low over the water, preparing for a landing or performing a touch-and-go maneuver.

MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance will extend the life of your E-flite floats.

- **After Each Flight:**

  - Rinse floats thoroughly with fresh water, especially after use in saltwater, to prevent corrosion.
  - Inspect for any water ingress. If water is found inside the floats, locate and seal the leak.
  - Check all mounting hardware for tightness.
  - Inspect the water rudder and linkage for damage or excessive wear.

- **Storage:** Store the floats in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Repairs:** Small cracks or punctures in the fiberglass can often be repaired with fiberglass repair kits or epoxy. Ensure repairs are watertight before flying.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Aircraft nose-overs during taxi/takeoff.	Too much elevator input; too slow speed; rough water; incorrect float angle.	Reduce elevator input; ensure sufficient speed before rotation; operate in calmer water; verify float mounting angle.
Floats taking on water.	Leak in fiberglass; loose inspection hatch/plug.	Inspect floats for cracks or unsealed areas. Repair with waterproof sealant or fiberglass repair kit. Ensure all plugs are secure.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor water rudder response.	Loose linkage; damaged rudder; servo issue.	Check and tighten rudder linkage; inspect rudder for damage; verify servo operation.
Difficulty gaining speed on water.	Insufficient power; excessive drag; incorrect center of gravity.	Ensure adequate power system for seaplane operation; check float alignment; verify aircraft's center of gravity.

SPECIFICATIONS

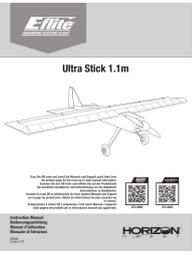| Feature	Detail
Model Number	EFLA500
Product Type	ARF Fiberglass Floats for RC Aircraft
Approximate Dimensions (L x W x H)	74.68 x 26.16 x 25.15 cm (Note: These dimensions may refer to packaging or overall assembled size, not individual float dimensions.)
Approximate Weight	5.7 kg (Note: This weight likely includes packaging or is a shipping weight, not the actual weight of the floats themselves.)
Assembly Required	Yes (Minimal assembly of floats, significant assembly for aircraft integration)
Batteries Required	No (for the floats themselves)

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official E-flite website or contact your authorized E-flite dealer. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

Related Documents - EFLA500

[E-flite Slick 3D 480 ARF Instruction Manual](#)
User manual for the E-flite Slick 3D 480 ARF (Almost-Ready-to-Fly) radio-controlled aerobatic airplane. This guide covers safety, assembly, setup, operation, and maintenance for hobbyists. Learn about specifications, recommended equipment, and pre-flight checks for this sophisticated electric flight model.

	[E-flite Ultra Stick 1.1m RC Airplane Instruction Manual](#) This comprehensive instruction manual provides detailed guidance for assembling, setting up, and safely operating the E-flite Ultra Stick 1.1m radio-controlled airplane, covering both BNF and ARF versions with key technologies like AS3X and SAFE Select.
	[Manuale di Istruzioni E-flite F-16 Falcon 80mm EDF (EFL87850/EFL87870)](#) Manuale di istruzioni completo per l'aeromodello E-flite F-16 Falcon 80mm EDF. Include guide all'assemblaggio, configurazione della trasmittente, tecnologia SAFE Select, test di volo, manutenzione e risoluzione dei problemi.
	[E-flite Draco 2.0m Instruction Manual](#) Comprehensive instruction manual for the E-flite Draco 2.0m RC aircraft, covering assembly, setup, operation, safety, and troubleshooting. Features SAFE Select and AS3X technology for enhanced flight control.
	[E-flite T-28 1.1m BNF Basic & PNP: Bedienungsanleitung](#) Umfassende Bedienungsanleitung für das ferngesteuerte Modellflugzeug E-flite T-28 1.1m, erhältlich in den Ausführungen BNF Basic und PNP. Enthält detaillierte Anleitungen zu Montage, Einrichtung, SAFE Select-Technologie, Flugtipps und Wartung für sicheren Betrieb.
	[E-flite Habu XS 80mm EDF Instruction Manual](#) Comprehensive instruction manual for the E-flite Habu XS 80mm EDF RC jet, covering assembly, setup, operation, safety, and troubleshooting. Learn to fly your model aircraft with detailed guidance from Horizon Hobby.