

**E-flite EFL370001**

# E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m RC Airplane Instruction Manual

MODEL: EFL370001

## 1. Introduction and Overview

The E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m is an advanced Ready-To-Fly (RTF) Basic remote control trainer aircraft, specifically designed to assist new pilots in learning to fly. It is recognized as an official trainer by the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and numerous clubs worldwide. This model incorporates Spektrum Smart technology and SAFE (Sensor Assisted Flight Envelope) technology, offering multiple flight modes and advanced features to enhance the learning experience and provide flight assistance.

Key features include:

- **Beginner, Intermediate, and Experienced flight modes**, easily switchable during flight.
- **Spektrum DXS controller/transmitter** with DSMX 2.4GHz technology for reliable control.
- **Advanced SAFE Plus features** such as AutoLand, Holding Pattern, and Virtual Fence for enhanced safety and control.



The E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m RC Airplane, a high-wing trainer aircraft with a white, orange, and black color scheme.

## 2. Safety Information

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**WARNING:** It is imperative to read the ENTIRE instruction manual thoroughly to become familiar with all product features before operation. Incorrect operation can lead to product damage, personal property damage, and serious injury. This product is a sophisticated hobby item requiring caution, common sense, and basic mechanical ability for safe operation. Failure to operate this product responsibly may result in injury or damage to the product or other property. This product is not intended for use by children without direct adult supervision. Do not use incompatible components or modify this product in any way not explicitly instructed by Horizon Hobby, LLC. The product manual contains critical instructions for safety, operation, and maintenance. Adhering to all instructions and warnings prior to assembly, setup, or use is essential for correct operation and to prevent damage or serious injury.

### 3. What's in the Box

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The E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m RTF Basic package includes the following components:

- (1) E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m Aircraft
- (1) Brushless Outrunner Motor (installed)
- (1) 30A Brushless Telemetry-Capable ESC (installed)
- (3) 13g Digital Metal-Geared Servos (installed)
- (1) 37g Servo (installed)
- (1) Spektrum™ 3230 Flight Controller (installed)
- (1) Spektrum 4650C Serial Receiver (installed)
- (1) Spektrum DXS 2.4GHz DSMX® Transmitter
- Product Manual

**Note:** A compatible LiPo battery and charger are **not included** and must be purchased separately to operate the aircraft.



## **Skill Level 1**

### **No Experience Required**

Skill Level 1 "trainer" aircraft are perfect for beginners and first-time RC (Radio Controlled) pilots because no prior experience is required to fly them!

The E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m aircraft shown alongside its included Spektrum DXS transmitter.

# Needed to Complete



Battery



Charger

Visual representation indicating that a battery and charger are required to complete the product setup.

## 4. Setup and Assembly

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Follow these general steps for the assembly of your Apprentice STS 1.5m. Refer to the detailed product manual for specific instructions and diagrams.

1. **Wing Attachment:** Securely attach the main wing to the fuselage according to the manual's instructions. Ensure all connections are firm.
2. **Landing Gear Installation:** Install the main landing gear and nose gear. Verify that they are properly seated and secured for stable ground handling.
3. **Propeller Installation:** Attach the propeller and spinner assembly to the motor shaft. Ensure it is balanced and tightened correctly.
4. **Battery Installation:** Once assembly is complete, install your charged LiPo battery into the designated battery compartment. Secure it to prevent shifting during flight.
5. **Transmitter Setup:** Power on your Spektrum DXS transmitter. Ensure it is properly bound to the aircraft's receiver.
6. **Control Surface Checks:** Before every flight, verify that all control surfaces (ailerons, elevator, rudder) move freely and in the correct direction relative to your transmitter inputs.
7. **Center of Gravity (CG) and Trim:** Crucially, balance the plane as shown in the instructions to achieve the correct Center of Gravity. Zero the trims on the transmitter and ensure the control surfaces on the plane are also zeroed (neutral position) before flight.



A side view of the E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m, showcasing its assembled structure.



An overhead view of the E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m, highlighting the wing and fuselage layout.

## 5. Operating Instructions

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The Apprentice STS 1.5m is equipped with SAFE technology, providing various modes to assist pilots at different skill levels.

### Flight Modes:

- **Beginner Mode:** Offers pitch and bank angle limits, automatic self-leveling, and reduced control sensitivity for maximum stability. This mode is ideal for first-time pilots.
- **Intermediate Mode:** Provides more freedom with increased pitch and bank angle limits, but still retains self-leveling capabilities. Control sensitivity is higher than Beginner mode.
- **Experienced Mode:** Removes all pitch and bank angle limits and self-leveling, providing full control for advanced maneuvers. This mode is for pilots who have mastered basic flight.



A front view of the E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m, showing its propeller and landing gear.

### SAFE Plus Features:

The SAFE Plus system integrates GPS technology for advanced flight assistance:

- **AutoLand:** Activated by a button press, this function guides the aircraft into a stabilized approach for an autonomous landing near the GPS initialization point. Pilots can provide directional guidance during the approach.
- **Holding Pattern:** This feature allows the aircraft to enter a GPS-guided circular holding pattern above the initialization point with a quick button press, effectively 'pausing' the flight. It's useful for regaining visual contact or handing over controls.
- **Virtual Fence:** Creates an invisible boundary that the aircraft will not fly past. If the aircraft reaches this boundary, it will automatically turn back towards the GPS initialization point, signaling the pilot with wing wags.



The E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m soaring through the sky, demonstrating its flight capabilities.



A graphic indicating 'Skill Level 1: No Experience Required', signifying the Apprentice STS is suitable for beginners.

## 6. Maintenance

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Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m.

- **Pre-Flight Checks:** Before each flight, inspect the aircraft for any damage, loose connections, or worn parts. Check the propeller for nicks or cracks.
- **Post-Flight Cleaning:** After each flight, gently clean any dirt, grass, or debris from the airframe, propeller, and landing gear.
- **Control Surface and Linkage Inspection:** Regularly check that all control surfaces move freely and that their linkages are secure and undamaged. Ensure no excessive play in the control horns or servo arms.

- **Battery Care:** Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for charging, discharging, and storing your LiPo batteries. Never overcharge or over-discharge.
- **Motor and ESC:** Periodically check the motor for smooth rotation and ensure the Electronic Speed Controller (ESC) connections are secure and free from corrosion.
- **Landing Gear:** Inspect the landing gear for bends or damage, especially after hard landings. Ensure the wheels spin freely.



A detailed view of the aircraft's nose, propeller, and front landing gear, important areas for pre-flight inspection.



The underside of the Apprentice STS 1.5m, showing the main landing gear and fuselage.

## 7. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Apprentice STS 1.5m. For comprehensive troubleshooting, refer to the full product manual.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Aircraft does not respond to transmitter.	Transmitter not powered on; receiver not bound; low battery in aircraft or transmitter.	Ensure transmitter is on. Re-bind receiver if necessary. Check and charge all batteries.
Motor does not start.	Throttle trim too high/low; ESC not armed; motor/ESC connection issue.	Ensure throttle trim is at lowest setting. Follow ESC arming procedure. Check all motor and ESC connections.
Aircraft flies erratically or is difficult to control.	Incorrect control surface trim; damaged control surface/linkage; incorrect CG; strong winds.	Adjust trims on transmitter. Inspect control surfaces and linkages for damage. Verify CG. Avoid flying in strong winds.
SAFE features not functioning correctly.	GPS signal loss; flight controller issue; incorrect setup.	Ensure clear sky for GPS signal. Re-calibrate flight controller. Review setup steps in manual.

If issues persist, consult the detailed troubleshooting guide in your product manual or contact E-flite customer support.

## 8. Specifications

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Below are the key specifications for the E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m RC Airplane:

Specification	Detail
Product Dimensions	42 x 19 x 8.2 inches
Item Weight	4.8 pounds
Model Number	EFL370001
Manufacturer	E-flite
Recommended Age	14 months and up (Note: RC aircraft typically require higher maturity for safe operation)
Batteries Required	4 AA batteries (for transmitter, not included)
First Available Date	December 9, 2022

## 9. Warranty and Support

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For detailed warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your product package. Warranty terms and conditions are typically provided by the manufacturer, E-flite, or Horizon Hobby, LLC.

Should you require technical assistance, parts, or have questions regarding the operation or maintenance of your Apprentice STS 1.5m, please contact E-flite customer support. You can often find support contact details and additional resources on the official E-flite website or through the Horizon Hobby support channels.

Visit the [E-flite Store](#) for more products and information.



[Horizon Hobby E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m RC Airplane Instruction Manual](#)

Comprehensive instruction manual for the Horizon Hobby E-flite Apprentice STS 1.5m RTF Basic and BNF Basic RC airplane. Covers assembly, operation, safety, SAFE technology, GPS upgrades, troubleshooting, and maintenance.

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