



# Do I need **permission** from the FAA to fly a UAS or drone for recreation or as a hobby?

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## **Do I need permission from the FAA to fly a UAS or drone for recreation or as a hobby?**

There are two ways for recreational or hobby UAS or drone fliers to operate in the National Airspace System in accordance with the law and/or FAA regulations

Option #1. Fly in accordance with the Special Rule for Model Aircraft. Under this rule, operators must:

1. [Register](#) your drone or UAS with the FAA
2. Fly for hobby or recreational purposes only
3. Follow a community-based set of safety guidelines
4. Fly your drone within visual line-of-sight
5. Give way to manned aircraft
6. Provide prior notification to the airport and air traffic control tower, if one is present, when flying within 5 miles of an airport
7. Fly a drone or UAS that weigh no more than 55 lbs. unless certified by a community-based organization

Option #2. Fly under the FAA's Small UAS Rule (14 CFR part 107). Under this rule, operators must:

1. [Register](#) their drone or UAS with the FAA as a "non-modeler"
2. Obtain an [FAA Remote Pilot Certificate](#)
3. Follow the [operational requirements](#) (PDF) of Part 107