

Test Flight

Century UK Max Thrust MX - 2 by Paul Bardoe

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A SHARP REPLICA OF THE FULL SIZE MACHINE!



Century's MX 2 is a sharp replica of the stunning full size aerobat. Most of you will recognize the Green and white factory colours of this aircraft, it is probably the most reproduced colour scheme in both model and full size aircraft.

Luckily for those of us who do not want to follow the crowd Century offer this model in base colours of green, yellow and orange all 3 look very smart. I chose the yellow one for this review and we also

took the plug n play version.

Open the box

This is another very large box but it is all very nicely packed and the airframe came out with no dents and dings.

This is the PNP version and comes with all 4 servos fitted. Also the motor and ESC are both fitted and plugged together, and a tube of glue is provided



“Very spirited flight performance from this latest offering from Max Thrust Models.”

for the few parts that need it.

There is also have a very good instruction booklet full of photos showing you exactly how it all goes together so best put the kettle on crack open the custard creams and read these first, it will make a difference so don't leave this bit out.

First Job

Fitting the under carriage. This involves just 4 bolts 2 each side. The legs are all finished for you with leg fairings, wheels and spats all pre fitted.

Your fuselage now stands on its own - complete and ready for the next job!

Tail, and Fin

The elevators are all pre hinged so all that is required here is to fit the elevator horn. Make sure you cut out the vinyl covering over the horn recess before gluing the horn into position. Using the screws supplied screw the horn on as the glue is drying.

The rear of the fuselage is recessed to accept the tail plane so you cannot get this wrong. I dropped the tail plane into position and checked to see if it was all straight and it was perfect. A

smear of glue on the base is all that is needed then position the tail plane into the recess. Now with the 2 45mm length screws supplied you screw the tail plane down giving you a good secure fitment.

The fin also has location holes in the top of the tail plane. This again ensures accuracy in the alignment. Put a smear of glue on the fin base then the push the fin into position. 2 more screws slide in from underneath the fuselage and into the fin base. Once fitted you need to hinge the rudder onto the fin. At this stage the tail wheel assembly needs to be fitted. This is a steerable tail wheel and needs to be connected to the rudder by the links provided.

The rear of this model is very well thought out and only takes a few minutes to assemble.

The elevator and rudder pushrods are already fitted into the fuselage so all that's left to do here is connect them to each surface.

Wings

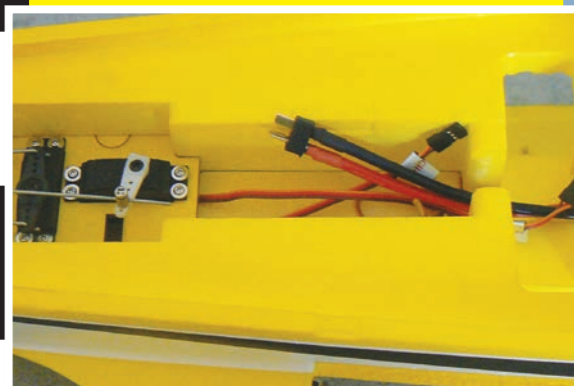
This is a two-piece affair and slide onto the fuselage via a very long carbon tube.

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Not many parts to assemble - Max Thrust's usual highly prefabricated product is typically exemplified with this one.



Plenty of access to the battery bay with this one.



Tail assembly simply bolts in place - very much akin to the excellent Riot reviewed a couple of issues back!



This area needed relieving for the control horn.

The fit into the fuselage was again spot on, once into position each panel has a location screw in the cockpit area to retain the panels.

The only other work required on the wing panels is mounting the control horns for each aileron, job done.

Cockpit / cowl

The canopy is left off the canopy frame which is an excellent idea. This gives you the opportunity to fit out your cockpit with a pilot and perhaps you could go to town and fit joy sticks some nice instrument dials. Whatever you do now is the time to personalise your MX-2. When finished Glue the canopy to its frame.

There are two hooks for the canopy, one in the fuselage and one on the canopy base. It is advised that you use the band provided to help retain the canopy and not just use the magnets.

Now you will see I did not do anything to mine and when I saw the photos I wished I had spent another 15 minutes fitting the cockpit out!

Thankfully the cowl is all fitted for you no cutting or drilling required. All that is needed is to fit the scale exhaust tube underneath the cowl and fit to the motor the scale 3 blade propeller and the very pointed and again scale like spinner.

Radio

With all the servos pre fitted there is only your preferred receiver to fit.

First step is to switch the radio on and check that all the servos are centered and moving in the right direction. Once done you are ready for that charged lipo that you put on charge when you started your build?

The Battery

It is recommended that you use a 4s 3200 to power your MX-2. Now Century have their own range of lipo's and kindly sent a 4s 3350 33c POWER-TECH lipo to try out.

I cycled this once to prove that all was ok. If your lipo works right on this first cycle then it is good and any deterioration after this is generally down to how you use or charge it.

The performance this pack gave was a surprise, there's plenty of cooking packs out there for all budgets but this one packs a punch. We have had good duration and performance from this pack so keep a look out for this ever increasing range. I will be hanging on to this pack for other reviews.

Flying

This is the bit you have read first without doubt, if not what were you waiting for?

We had sun clear skies and little wind all on the day I finished the model how jammy was that?

The take off area was a bit rough so I gave the model a couple of blips of power to try getting it moving whilst holding full up once the model moved forward I nailed the throttle at which point it leapt off the ground and went vertical, a couple of clicks of trim and I eased off the power falling into a flat spin flicked out at 20 feet into a knife edge pass across the strip which at that point my camera man said trimmed out ok then!!

I felt as though I had been flying this one all weekend so I settled into some slow passes for the photos and wow this model look's smart in the air. With no extra set up this model flew every aerobatic manoeuvre I could throw at it even some mild 3D rolling harriers and the usual and these days, essential prop hang. Accurate 4 and 8 point rolls were easy to accomplish, snap rolls and



Tailwheel assembly is very scale for a sport foam model.



Servo links to the ailerons are short and stiff - perfect!

flicks were excellent. The 'flukey' tail slide really looked the part

Manners

The model will stall and a little bit of provoking I did get the airframe to bite but you cannot have something that can perform show stopping displays and get it flying like a trainer.

The landing for the field I was in forced me to fly across an old disused barn and then through a gap in the trees all of which the model handled faultlessly whilst looking like a real MX-2 side slipping in for a landing.

So if you are after a nice scale model capable of giving a show stopping aerobatic performance without breaking the bank or requiring a big investment of your time this is it I was completely surprised how good this model is in fact It's on charge now and when it beeps I am off again and you know when I push it to far I am going to buy another one.



SPECIFICATIONS

Wingspan:	1400mm
Length:	1290mm
Weight:	1900g
Motor:	4050 outrunner
ESC:	70A BEC
Battery:	4s 3350 33c

RRP: £159.99

Contact:
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www.centuryuk.com