



European Union Aviation Safety Agency

## FAQ n.132025

### FAQs:

[Model aircraft](#) , [Drones \(UAS\)](#), [Regulations](#)

### Question:

**What distinguishes a model aircraft from a drone?**

### Answer:

They both have a flying part and a remote control. In addition, both may be used for recreational purposes. In reality, the difference between them lies more in how the aircraft is operated:

- Pilots of model aircraft are generally more interested in the pleasure of the flight and in directly controlling the aircraft's flight surfaces.
- Pilots of drones on the other hand are generally more interested in checking the video being filmed with the on-board camera in the drone and prefer to use automatic functions to stabilise the drone.

What is the result? Pilots of model aircraft are passionate aviators and normally quite well informed about the safety rules, especially when they operate within the framework of a model aircraft club or association.

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### Link:

<https://www.easa.europa.eu/ga/faq/132025>