



# COLD WEATHER

**HOW TO EXTEND YOUR  
FLYING SEASON INTO THE  
COLDER MONTHS**

# FLIGHT

#COLDWEATHERFLIGHT



**NOT THE MOST FAVORABLE  
CONDITIONS FOR FLYING A DRONE.**



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## THE CLIENT CALL.

It's the middle of Winter and a Polar Vortex has descended, sending you into maintenance mode. Just as you tighten the last screw and wipe down the aircraft, your best client calls with an urgent request for aerial snow scenes. A glance at the thermometer reveals a prop-stopping 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Not the most favorable conditions for flying a drone. Nevertheless, after a backwards glance at your golden retriever asleep by the fire, you gather your gear and prepare for a mid-winter flight.





# FIVE TIPS FOR COLD WEATHER FLIGHT.

## 1. Consider your batteries

Cold batteries mean shorter flight time, so take extras. Keep them warm in an insulated pack heated with hand warmers.

Keep an inverter handy to charge in the car if necessary.



**LET IT ACCLIMATE TO THE COLDER TEMPERATURE.**



## **2. Consider your aircraft**

**Let it acclimate to the colder temperature ahead of time to avoid lens fog and IMU problems. Don't fly directly after leaving your home, car, or other warm environments.**



**MENTAL FATIGUE DUE TO EXTREME COLD CAN LEAD TO RUSHED DECISION MAKING.**

### **3. Take Frequent Warming Breaks**

Long-term exposure to extreme cold can have detrimental effects on both your physical and mental capacities. The physical are usually easy to spot: numb face, hands and toes. But, mental fatigue due to extreme cold can lead to rushed decision making and your taking chances you might not otherwise take.





## 4. Take a Co-Pilot

Sharing the flight duties with other pilots allows you warm up between flights. Plus, you'll have fresh eyes and avoid shot fatigue.

When not flying, they can wrangle gear from warm to cold and keep the powder dry-or in this case, the lens cloth clean.

## 5. Don't Fly in Wet Snow

It can be as bad as flying in rain. Ensure props and body are the same temperature as the ambient air so that the snow doesn't melt on contact. Melting snow can bother the electronics, but worse-it can refreeze on the props, reduce lift and bring your aircraft down in a hurry. And keep in mind that you're still restricted to a minimum of three miles visibility, so check that weather before you head out.

Keeping these tips in mind can help make your cold weather flying fun and rewarding, and extend your flying season throughout the winter months.





# THANK

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