

PHOTO

AB

Best Photo, Video & Field Gear

BY TEAM PHOTODRONE

When it comes to getting the perfect shot or video, the right tools can make all the difference. Here are 20 of our favorite accessories, tools, and gear to keep your photo drone flying right and your subject in focus.



GoProfessional Blade 350-QX Case

Your drone is a significant purchase, so it makes sense to invest in a case to protect it—especially when you're traveling or transporting it to a remote location. With precision water-jet cut foam insert and a lifetime guarantee, this 21 x 17 x 9-inch case offers permanent peace of mind. GoProfessional also has cases for specific DJI, Yuneec and 3D Robotics drones.

\$209.00

goprofessionalcases.com

Blackmagic Design Micro Super 16 Cinema Camera

With a Super 16 sensor and 13 stops of dynamic range and built-in RAW recording and features, this HD camera from Blackmagic Design is perfectly suited to rotor drones. The 2.5 x 3.25 x 2.74-inch Micro Super 16 Cinema Camera can use interchangeable lenses, and its HDMI output makes it easy to connect to a display.

\$995.00

blackmagicdesign.com



Hitec RCD S60 Sport Camera

The S60 from Hitec and AEE is a feature-packed action camera that provides ultra resolution and hi-def precision! Video all the high-flying action and showcase your talents with this high-profile master. It features 1080p/60fps and 16MP image shots, 2-inch LCD back for great viewing footage, hands-free recording with a G-Force sensor, and an IP-68 waterproof housing with 10m diving-depth capability.

\$470.00

hitecrd.com

Du-Bro Products Tru-Spin Prop Balancer

The Tru-Spin Prop Balancer's newly designed locking cone securely centers and locks props onto the balancing shaft for utmost accuracy. The balancing shaft is manufactured out of hardened material and then is centerless ground to give precision balance every time. The prop balancer's aluminum wheels turn virtually friction-free. The Tru-Spin will balance props of all sizes and weights, and comes with easy assembly and balancing instructions.

\$39.00

dubro.com



Graupner Polaron EX 1400W

This powerful charger has 40 profile memories and is capable of producing up to 700 watts per channel with 8-cell packs, but it does require a 24-volt power source. An attached stylus makes it easier to use the touchscreen menu system, but you'll have no problem using your fingers to move from screen to screen. The unit also works with the new high-voltage LiPo batteries; you just need to set the charging voltage at 4.35 volts per cell. On the bench with a 24-volt power supply, the Graupner Polaron EX 1400W makes quick work with even the largest packs, and offers up a number of menus that show the health and well-being of each cell.

\$349.00

openhobby.com



Amimon Connex Mini

Good things come in small packages! This new zero-latency, wireless HD video transmission system is designed for aerial video production with drones that have a limited payload. Despite its small size (1.5 x 1.75 x 0.5 inches), the Amimon Connex Mini delivers performance that includes full 1080p HD video at 60 frames per second, with zero latency at up a range of 1,600 feet.

\$1,299.00

connex.amimon.com





Hoodman Drone Aviator Hoods

Hoodman Drone Aviator Hoods mount to your iPad, iPad mini, and iPhone 6 and 6+ for improved outdoor viewing. Hood bottom panels have a unique pierceable feature to aid in touchscreen access. Hood extenders mount over base hoods for optimal glare-free viewing. Adjustable mounting straps make hood mounting easy. A safety strap locks smart devices into mounts.

\$20.00 to \$60.00
hoodmanusa.com



Nikon KeyMission 360

A 4K, 360-degree, waterproof, Wi-Fi-equipped sport camera? Where do we sign up? This action cam looks ideal for multirotor use and has electronic image stabilization to help smooth out aerial video. The Nikon KeyMission 360 is shockproof, too, but only to 6.6 feet, so don't count on it to survive a serious crash.

Price not available at press time
nikonusa.com

Mercury Adhesives Brush-in-Cap Threadlocker

This product from Mercury Adhesives features a unique applicator that solves the mess of threadlocker application. The brush-in-cap design provides precise application to virtually any fastener. Simply unscrew the top, pull out the brush, wipe off any excess on the side of the opening, and apply just the right amount you need to do the job.

\$7.00
mercuryadhesives.com



Hitec RCD LiPo Checker

With an easy-to-read LCD display and built-in safety features, the convenience and accuracy of Hitec's LiPo Checker can't be beat. The battery-checking function precisely reviews the voltage of each cell of a lithium battery pack while displaying the remaining total capacity in percentages. The balance operation equalizes the individual voltages of each cell. The LiPo checker is to be used with up to 6-cell LiPo battery packs only.

\$20.00
hitecrcd.com



Eagle Tree Vector Flight Controller Accessories

Eagle Tree Systems offers several accessories to aid with vector flight control. The small, lightweight Alerter provides audiovisual information about your model's status, and it also serves as a smart lost-model alarm. The Info Panel makes it easy to check your model's status and configure settings at the field. And Plug & Play AV Cables (not shown) make connecting to a Fat Shark or GoPro camera simple.

Alerter, \$14.99; Info Panel, \$32.99; Plug & Play AV Cables, starting at \$9.99
eagletreesystems.com



Avroto 3520 400Kv Lift Series Motors

The Avroto 3520 is a 400Kv heavy-lift multirotor motor designed for reliable operation in rugged conditions and trusted by professionals. It has oversize German precision bearings for low vibration, and its waterproof design and large cooling vents allow operation in extreme environments. A terraced safety shaft eliminates the need for shaft rings or clips, and low-resistance copper windings and high-energy magnets maximize thrust and efficiency. For use with 6S LiPo packs and 18-inch props.

\$138.00
montorc.com

Rocky Mountain Unmanned Systems FLIR Vue Thermal Cameras

The FLIR Vue is an affordable thermal camera specially designed to give UAS/drone operators high-quality thermal imaging, and it's ideal for search and rescue, structural roof inspection, and police and fire applications. It's compatible with all of Rocky Mountain Unmanned Systems' conversion kits for the DJI Phantom 2, Inspire 1, and more. Available in 640x512 or 336x256 resolutions with various speed and lens-size options.

\$1,499.00 to \$3,199.00
rockymountainunmannedsystems.com



Plasticase Nanuk 945 Storage Case

Made out of impact-resistant NK-7 resin, the Nanuk 945 case can survive the worst abuse. This waterproof case is available with inserts to accommodate various drones and plenty of accessories. The case has four latches, to keep your mind at ease. Two holes allow you to insert two TSA locks. (The case comes with a "Search Alert" TSA lock, which has a feature that lets you know if the case has been opened.) An automatic pressure-release valve equalizes the pressure on the inside of the case. A neoprene air-cell strap is available with the Plasticase Nanuk 945 for padded comfort, better weight distribution, and easier lifting. Overall, the Nanuk is very sturdy, and it can even make a great landing pad in a pinch!

\$249.99
plasticase.com



3D Robotics Pixhawk

The 3D Robotics Pixhawk is a top-shelf controller, which includes autopilot functions that allow sophisticated scripting of missions and flight behaviors. The tight timing and wide array of sensor inputs amount to effectively unlimited programming for autonomous aircraft, and several thoughtful features add to safety and convenience.

\$200.00
3dr.com



Canon EOS Rebel SL1

Ideal for 500-size multirotors, the Canon EOS Rebel SL1 with a Canon EF 40mm STM lens weighs 1 pound 3 ounces and produces full 1080p HD video at 30 frames per second. For slow-motion footage, 60fps in 1280 x 720 produces outstanding quality. With impressive 18-megapixel resolution, it can create large sharp prints and with its mini USB port and an HDMI output, so you can quickly downlink information to a ground station. The 40mm lens provides a normal view with no distortion for great aerial shots of building and people. The SL1 CMOS sensor and the DIGIC 5 image processor provide sharp detail and accurate colors along with low-noise imaging in low light.

\$499.00
bhphotovideo.com





P-Squared Group P3 QuadCharger Pro
The new P3 QuadCharger Pro allows you to charge up to four individual Phantom 3 batteries at the same time. It comes with a high-quality, external 20-amp AC/DC Thunder Power DC power supply to provide consistent power, and the strong, lightweight battery container has a built-in Intelligent Charging Management system and a cooling fan. Molded out of durable plastic, the charger includes a DC charging cable.
\$429.00
p-squaredgroup.com



LowePro DroneGuard CS 300/400 Carry Cases
Designed by pilots for pilots, the DroneGuard series offers flexible organization for drone and gear that fits top-selling brands. FormShell technology safeguards fragile gear with lightweight, sturdy, composite-shell construction, which delivers superior impact protection. The DroneGuard CS 300 can carry a Parrot Bebop or similar-size drone, while the CS 400 is designed for a DJI Phantom-size form factor. Both have adjustable dividers and compartments, and a panel of accessory straps keeps blades, props, mounts, cables, and batteries neat and secure.
\$130.00 to \$150.00
lowepro.com/droneguard



Great Planes RealFlight Drone Simulator
Learn drone camera and flying skills risk-free! RealFlight Drone software includes more than a dozen different drones plus 20 realistic sites that can be adjusted for flying at a variety of wind levels and in other conditions, such as day or night. The simulator also provides valuable experience in camera-gimbal operation and FPV camera control. The packet includes R/C transmitter-style controller and Windows compatible software.
\$130.00
realflight.com

WingTote Ultimate Drone Tote
The Ultimate Drone Tote is designated “medium” size and provides ample room for any 300-380-class drone plus extra space for radio, batteries, cameras, and any other support gear. It has two zippered end pockets, a generous side “document” pocket, an interior pouch with a Velcro closure, and reinforced structure panels. All four sides of this soft-sided nylon bag are foam padded to provide significant impact protection in a stand-alone structure, allowing it to keep its shape whether full or empty, and it weighs just 8 pounds. The foam insert comfortably houses most common drone designs and can easily be cut to fit custom applications (templates included).

\$149.95
wingtote.com

