

## Remote pilot certificate

Remote pilot is a natural person who flies a drone. We recommend that everyone take the exam to obtain the A1/A3 remote pilot certificate to increase awareness, even though it's only mandatory for drones weighing more than 250 grams.

### A1/A3

To obtain an A1/A3 remote pilot competency, a remote pilot must study the materials and take an online multiple-choice test.

### A2

To obtain A2 remote pilot competency, you need to study the materials and take a multiple-choice test which will take place at the Estonian Transport Administration's bureaus.

The remote pilot certificates are valid for 5 years and are recognized throughout the EASA member states.

[EU Regulations 2019/947 and 2019/945](#) set out the framework for the safe operation of civil drones in the European skies.

Find out  
about the rules



[transpordiamet.ee/en/  
aviation-and-aviation-safety/  
flying-drones-estonia](https://transpordiamet.ee/en/aviation-and-aviation-safety/flying-drones-estonia)

Check the  
geographical zones  
before the flight

HERE



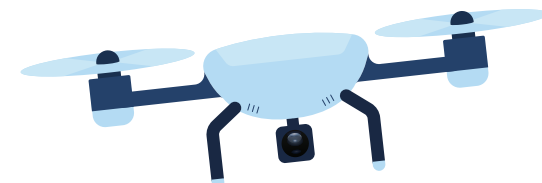
[utm.eans.ee/avm](https://utm.eans.ee/avm)

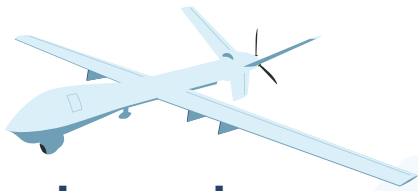


REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
TRANSPORT ADMINISTRATION



# DRONE GUIDE





## What do I need to make sure before my flight?

- Have I registered myself as UAS operator?
- What are the conditions and restrictions at my planned flight location?
- Do I know the rules of flight?
- Do I have the necessary remote pilot certificate?

## Registration of UAS operator

'Unmanned aircraft system operator' ('UAS operator') means any legal or natural person operating or intending to operate one or more UAS. Registration in Estonia can be done at LOIS [lois.transpordiamet.ee](https://lois.transpordiamet.ee).

You register once, independently of how many drones you have operating in the open category. Your registration will be valid for one year, after which you need to renew it.

However, you do not need to register yourself if your drone(s):

- **weighs less than 250g and has no camera** or other sensor able to detect personal data; or
- **even with a camera or other sensor, weighs less than 250g, but is a toy** (this means that its documentation shows that it complies with 'toy' Directive 2009/48/EC).

Each operator will be assigned a unique registration number, which needs to be displayed with a sticker on all the drones you own, including those privately built.

**Based on the risk level, three categories of operation are distinguished.**

- Open category
- Specific category
- Certified category

Most flights are done in the open category. A drone may be operated in the open category if the following requirements are met:

- it is flown within visual line of sight (VLOS) or with the assistance of an unmanned aircraft observer;
- it weighs less than 25 kg;
- it is not flown higher than 120 meters from the ground and/or water;
- it does not carry dangerous goods and does not drop any material.

All open category rules can be found on the Estonian Transport Administration webpage [transpordiamet.ee/en/open-category-flights](https://transpordiamet.ee/en/open-category-flights). If even one of these requirements are not met, the drone must be operated in the 'specific' or 'certified' category.



**Open category is divided into three subcategories: A1, A2 and A3**

### A1

Drones with a class marking C0 or C1 cannot be flown over assemblies of people. It is mandatory to have an A1/A3 remote pilot license to fly a C1 drone.

### A2

Drones with a C2 class marking can be flown at a horizontal distance of at least 30 meters. However, in the case of low-speed flight mode, the minimum distance can be reduced to 5 meters. A2 remote pilot certificate is mandatory.

### A3

Drones with a C3 or C4 class marking can be flown horizontally at least 150 meters from uninvolved people and from residential, commercial, industrial and recreational areas. A1/A3 remote pilot certificate is mandatory.

You can still fly your drone without class identification labels, however, only under the following subcategories of operation, for which you have to fully comply with:

- subcategory A1 when the drone's maximum take-off weight (MTOM) is less than 250 g; or
- subcategory A3 when the drone's maximum take-off weight is less than 25 kg.

