



SILVERLIT TANDEM Z

The latest indoor wonder from Flying Toys represents a leap forward in control authority and comes highly recommended for children of all ages (including pensioners...)!



The X-Twin DIY kits provide all the hardware you need for indoor scale projects - how long before someone puts a Peanut scale fuselage on the Tandem Z?

Silverlit have done it again! Last month we looked at their range of builders' kits which included the impressive four-engined indoor machine in the form of the SE85682 Aero System Professional Set. Now we have not one, but two rotors on an indoor helicopter!

For those who don't know - Google Alexander Van De Rostyne, for he is the brains behind the amazing little Picoo Z micro-helicopter, this a development of Alex's original Pixel trio, which were, at the time, the smallest R/C helicopters in the world. Silverlit clearly liked what they saw and championed and marketed the concept to world-wide acclaim, with sales clearly in the millions by now - an incredible achievement by any standards in this hobby! Now Silverlit have gone one further, with a twin rotor version that facilitates full three-axis control, in the form of the aptly tagged Tandem Z range!

The Tandem Z is loosely modelled on the Boeing Chinook and in camouflage is a very convincing replication in miniature of Boeing's troop-carrying battlewagon of the skies. Silverlit's research and development boffins have simply taken two Picoo Z mechanic sets and combined these into a Chinook-shaped foam airframe, where, by careful invocation of electronic wizardry allied to a mechanically opposed offset of each rotor set, they've given you fully controllable agility in all three axis, which is a neat trick and I can confirm that it works incredibly well.

The transmitter is the usual Silverlit device, purpose-built for this machine and comprising of a charge station for the helicopter, too. It's a surprisingly sophisticated handset, with full trim adjustment for forward speed allied to a trim adjustment for rotational stability and it all works perfectly, with none of the marginal feel that you get with some small indoor heli-



icopters - indeed, full forward speed is incredibly rapid for indoors use, yet hauling back on the trim wheel sees the Tandem Z in a hands-off stationary hover at the same stick position - very controllable, as I said!

With practise, this little helicopter can easily be controlled within the confines of a very small room (yes, even 'the smallest room'...) and table-top landings are a cinch. It's a lot of fun in a small package and represents a leap forward in control authority over the already impressive Picoo range, which is bound to

appeal. In calm weather it can be flown outdoors, providing the sunlight isn't too bright, this restriction due to its infrared control system, but make no mistake, range and control outdoors during calm evenings is plenty good enough to let you fly her around the garden. And it's tough, too! Mine has been blown into our four-hundred-year-old granite walls more than a few times and nothing has broken or dropped off yet - highly recommended for children of all ages (including pensioners...)! ■

ABOVE: Sophisticated package is beautifully presented. **BELOW LEFT:** It's a very neat little thing - a palm top three-axis twin-rotor semi-scale Chinook. Amazing! **BELOW RIGHT:** Take-offs from - and indeed landings on - the box are entirely possible!

Specification

E85812 THREE-CHANNEL TANDEM Z-1 CAMOUFLAGE

MAIN ROTOR DIAMETER:
130mm (5.25").

LENGTH:
170mm (6.75") excluding rotors.

WEIGHT:
23g including flight battery.

FLIGHT BATTERY:
High capacity integral lithium polymer battery.

CHARGER:
Integral transmitter/charger supplied with LED indicator/auto shutoff. Simply plug in and charge, with easy to use connections.

CHARGING TIME:
20-30 minutes for full charge.

FLIGHT DURATION:
5-10 minutes between charges.

BATTERIES REQUIRED:
6 x 1.5v AA alkaline batteries for transmitter/charger.

Supplied completely assembled and already charged ready-to-fly, with pre-installed three-channel proportional infrared control system.

RANGE:
Up to 10m (30ft).

FREQUENCY:
Infrared control system - individual bands A, B and C allow up to three helicopters to be flown together.

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:
£49.99 including VAT.
Supplied by Flying Toys
www.flyingtoys.com



ABOVE LEFT: This is what you get - a Tx/Charge Station and a completely RTF helicopter! **ABOVE RIGHT:** Available in three civilian colours as well as the latest full camouflage livery. **BELOW:** The latest version is sure to appeal for military sorties around the kitchen - neat!

