

# Rage R/C Micro Vintage Stick RTF

**A refreshing step back to simple fun**

TEXT & PHOTOS BY GERRY YARRISH



Sometimes you just need an RC airplane that's uncomplicated and plain fun to fly. Our models with all the bells and whistles often actually get in the way of us having fun. Getting back to basics can solve that. The new Micro Vintage Stick is a ready-to-fly (RTF) from Rage R/C, and it comes with everything you need to get into the air. Taking a step back in time, the Vintage Stick has a nostalgic appearance but is actually very sturdy for a micro flier, with its modern carbon-fiber materials and molded foam wing and tail. Add to this some updated 2.4GHz radio technology, and you have just what the doctor ordered: an easy-to-fly model that's ideal for compact areas.



THE MICRO VINTAGE STICK IS JUST PLAIN FUN TO FLY. TOSS IT GENTLY INTO THE WIND AND THE MODEL DOES THE REST.

The model is light and small, so flying outdoors requires calm conditions.

AT A GLANCE	WHAT WE LIKE
<b>MODEL</b> Vintage Stick	+ Super-ultralight wing loading
<b>MANUFACTURER</b> Rage R/C (hobbyrecreationproducts.com)	+ Rudder, elevator, and throttle control
<b>TYPE</b> tk	+ Lightweight, durable carbon-fiber fuselage and frame
<b>WINGSPAN</b> 16 5/8 in.	+ Excellent flight stability for indoor and outdoor flights
<b>PILOT SKILL LEVEL</b> 16 5/8 in.	
<b>ASSEMBLY TIME</b> 16 5/8 in.	
<b>RADIO REQ'D</b> 3-channel (included)	
<b>POWER REQ'D</b> 1S 150mAh LiPo (included)	
<b>PRICE</b> 1S 150mAh LiPo (included) (PNP)	



The Micro Vintage Stick comes with a 4-channel-capable 2.4GHz transmitter to control throttle, rudder, and elevator.



Out of the box, the Micro Vintage Stick is ready to fly.

### UNIQUE FEATURES

The Micro Vintage Stick's construction is simple and durable, with a carbon-fiber stick airframe that weighs only 24g (without the battery). Included are a factory-applied WW I-style trim scheme and a 2.4GHz 4-channel-capable transmitter with a built-in charger for the included 1S 150mAh LiPo flight battery. Also installed are the control linkages and an integral control board with speed control and servos.

The 2.4GHz transmitter has dual sticks and digital trims, and it operates perfectly, with the right stick controlling the elevator and rudder and the left stick for power. The only additional items required are four AA batteries for the transmitter. Built into the lower left corner of the transmitter case is a compartment with a hatch cover, which contains a charging lead for the flight battery. Simply connect the battery to the lead (matching the red dots), and the charge

begins lighting the yellow LED on the face of the transmitter; the battery is fully charged when the LED goes out. Charge time is between 15 and 20 minutes depending on the battery voltage levels.

The brushed motor is attached to a gear drive and spins the 4 3/4-inch propeller with ease. Beneath the motor is a molded holder that the flight battery slips into. With my test model, the battery would fall out of the holder when the model landed, but I used a little piece of clear tape to prevent this from happening again. The wing-attachment points are molded, and they hold the wing securely in place. For added strength, there is also a very thin carbon-fiber rod taped to the center of the wing's leading edge. The color of the wing and tail surfaces are very WW I Eindecker-ish and work perfectly with the factory-applied German markings.

### IN THE AIR

The size of the Micro Vintage Stick and the carrying case it comes in make the model ideal for keeping in the smallest of cars for impromptu lunchtime flights. With a built-in battery charger as part of the transmitter, there's no support field equipment required.

### GENERAL FLIGHT PERFORMANCE

**Stability:** Even though the model looks fragile, it is very sturdy, and its flight performance is excellent with the provided 1S LiPo battery. Stability is excellent and on a flat, smooth gym floor, the model will take off by itself simply by advancing the throttle.

**Tracking:** With its minimal open-structure construction and high-wing arrangement, the Vintage Stick tracks nicely. It is extremely lightweight and its wing loading is light, so it will be affected by wind currents. The best time to fly is in the early morning or late afternoon when conditions are the



Left: The tail surfaces, control linkage, and wire tailskid all come installed.



Right: The motor is brushed and comes attached to a gear drive to spin the propeller.



Located below the wing, the airborne control board combines receiver, speed control, and servo functions.



Just in front of the wing and below the motor is a holder for the LiPo flight battery.

calmest. When indoors, stay away from air-conditioner and heating vents.

**Aerobatics:** Considering that the model has only three channels—throttle, elevator, and rudder—it can take care of itself. There's plenty of power on tap with a fully charged





battery, and loops are easy. You can even do steep climbs into a sort of a wingover, with full rudder added at the top. I did not try to roll the Vintage Stick, but with its good roll response, you should be able to pull off a decent barrel roll if you have enough ceiling height.

**Glide and stall performance:** The model is so light that I never really got it to stall noticeably. With the power off, the model comes down in a steep descent, and with the power on, it simply noses up to a point and then it lowers its nose and continues to fly along—no surprises at all.

### PILOT DEBRIEFING

The Micro Vintage Stick is just plain fun to fly. Outdoors, hand launches are required, and all you have to do is be aware of the direction the wind is coming from. Toss it gently into the wind and the model does the rest. Indoors, the model easily takes off at less than full power. My test model had wheel axles that dragged a little, so I used a razor blade to pry the inside wheel keepers away from the rims; this solved the problem nicely. To extend your flight time, ordering a second 25C 1S 70mAh LiPo battery (RGRA 1230) would be a good idea.

**GEAR USED**

-  **RADIO**  
2.4GHz 4-channel-capable transmitter; airborne control system with integrated servos, receiver, and speed control (installed)
-  **MOTOR**  
tk (installed)
-  **BATTERY**  
1S 150mAh LiPo (included)
-  **PROPELLER**  
4 3/4-inch plastic (included)

### BOTTOM LINE

If you are looking for something that is a piece of cake to fly, requires no assembly, has nice flight duration, and contains enough power and stability for relaxed flights, then choosing the Micro Vintage Stick from Rage R/C is a no-brainer. Whether you want to fly at a local park, in your own backyard, or at a local school's gymnasium, this little RC flier is the one to have. ✚