

UK body warns drone owners: Fly safely, or you'll be fined

December 25 2014

Got a nifty little drone for Christmas? If so, fly it carefully. Especially if you are in Britain.

The country's civil aviation authority on Thursday issued a [warning](#) that people who fly their drones recklessly face prosecution and a hefty fine.

Officials say the popular Christmas gifts cannot be used over congested areas or close to people or buildings without official permission. Fines go up to 5,000 pounds (\$8,000).

Spokesman Gerry Corbett says [drone](#) technology has improved as costs have come down, making the devices much more affordable, but that new users have to follow regulations.

The warning follows a number of incidents and near-misses involving drones, including one that came close to a commercial plane landing at London Heathrow Airport.

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Citation: UK body warns drone owners: Fly safely, or you'll be fined (2014, December 25)
retrieved 3 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-12-uk-body-drone-owners-safely.html>

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