Tower (https://web.archive.org /web/20150423061707 /http://3drobotics.com /kb/tower-support/)

Follow Me Instructions

Follow Me is now supported for all 3DR copters running ArduCopter version 3.2! For instructions on how to update the ArduCopter firmware on your vehicle, view the video tutorial *here (https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http: //youtu.be/JlgDSZPtO6U)*.

Follow Me is an advanced in-flight feature of Tower that uses an Android phone or tablet as a virtual tether, allowing the drone to track you with the camera as you move.

You'll need one person–the actor–that will carry the ground station and be followed by the drone, and one person–the operator–that will carry the controller and be ready to regain manual control at any time. 3DR's 3PV™ (Third Person View) Follow Me technology requires a GPS enabled Android device with OTG USB.

In order to use Follow Me, you'll first need to connect to Tower (https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com /kb/connecting-tower/).

Start Follow Me

When you're ready to start, take off in loiter (LTR), and climb to the altitude that you want the drone to maintain during Follow Me. Don't forget to turn on your camera before takeoff! To activate Follow Me, select *Follow* on Tower.

[(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com /wp-content/uploads/2015/04/select_follow1.jpg)](https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/select_follow1.jpg)

When Follow Me is activated, you will see *Guided* as the mode at the top of the screen.

(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com
/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/loiter_mode1.jpg)

If the Follow-Me icon turns red, Tower is searching for GPS on your
device. When the device acquires a strong GPS lock, the icon will turn
blue and Follow Me will activate.

(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com
/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/red_follow1.png)

Angles

Follow Me features six angles to compose your shot. Select the name
of the angle to choose from the drop-down menu.

(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com
/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/follow_types1.jpg)

Leash

The drone follows behind the actor at a specified distance.

Lead

The drone flies in front of the actor, facing towards them and maintaining a specified distance.

Left/Right

The drone keeps pace with the actor on either their left or right side, faces towards them, and maintains a specified distance.

Circle

The drone flies a circle pattern around the actor at a specified radius, facing in.

Altitude

When activated, Follow Me will maintain the drone's current altitude. To adjust the radius during Follow Me, select the + and – options under "Altitude" to increase or decrease the altitude by one meter. Tower will display the current target altitude in parentheses.

(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com
/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/altitude11.jpg)

Radius

The radius determines the horizontal distance between the actor and
the drone. Each angle has a specified default radius that will be used
when you activate Follow Me.

Angle	Default Radius
Leash	8 m
Lead	15 m
Left/Right	10 m
Orbit	15 m
Above*	0 m

To adjust the radius during Follow Me, select the + and – options under "Radius" to increase or decrease the radius by one meter. Tower will display the current radius in parentheses.

(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com /wp-content/uploads/2015/04/radius.jpg)

Safety

To switch out of Follow Me from Tower the actor can tap "Loiter". The drone must have GPS lock to engage loiter mode. To switch out of Follow Me using the controller, the operator can switch into standard (altitude hold) and regain manual control or switch RTL ON to recall the drone to the launch point. To switch into loiter using the controller, the operator must switch into standard and back into loiter.

GPS Failsafe

Follow Me requires GPS lock. If the drone loses GPS lock during Follow Me, it will initiate a GPS failsafe and switch to standard manual flight (altitude hold mode). If this is occurs, the drone will immediately transfer manual control to the operator. Because of this, the operator should ensure that the throttle stick is set to center position at all times during Follow Me.

Pebble Watch Control

To control the drone using a Pebble (https://web.archive.org /web/20150423061707/https://getpebble.com/) watch, make sure the Pebble is synced and connected to your tablet. In Tower, select the Tower logo in the top-left corner of the screen, select Settings, and select *Update Pebble*. The Tower app will automatically launch onto the Pebble.

FAQs

Which devices can I use with Follow Me?
-Follow Me requires a device with a built-in GPS and OTG (on the go) technology. We recommend the Nexus line of tablets and the Samsung S3 phone, as these have been tested to work with Follow Me. A complete list of devices compatible with Tower can be found here (https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/https://github.com /Droidplanner/droidplanner/wiki/Compatible-Devices), but this list does not guarantee that the device will work with Follow Me. Have success with a certain device? Let us know by contacting docs@3dr.com.

Do I need a gimbal to use Follow Me?
-Yes, you need a gimbal to use the full functionality of Follow Me. However, the basic following function doesn't require a gimbal, so it is possible for the drone to follow the actor with a fixed-mounted camera (or without a camera), although the autopilot has no means of keeping the actor in the shot as it does with a gimbal.

Follow Me works by using the gimbal's control over the tilt angle of the camera. During Follow Me, the autopilot instructs the gimbal to point the camera towards the actor wherever they are. This means that

the actor will always be in the shot regardless of the position of the drone. If you do not have a gimbal, Follow Me will not be able to change the tilt angle of the camera, although the drone will still follow the actor. If you choose to use a fixed-mounted camera, set the angle of the camera so that it is likely to capture the actor from the altitude and angle you will use during Follow Me. However, this will not guarantee that the actor will be continuously in the shot.

Was this helpful?

Yes (https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com/kb/follow-instructions /?p=10573&help=1&_wpnonce=a488f5f6a4)

No (https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com/kb/follow-instructions /?p=10573&help=0&_wpnonce=7116573093)

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(https://web.archive.org/web/20150423061707/http://3drobotics.com/solo-

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