





Heavy Lift Drone Fuel Use Considerations

Note: Ascent rate and HP values are from the
Pump and Motor Calculations Pages

Altitude 0000ft 1765 rpm 2.94 m/sec 550 HP

Altitude 3000ft 1845 rpm 3.08 m/sec 575 HP

Altitude 6000ft 1930 rpm 3.22 m/sec 599 HP

Altitude 9000ft 2022 rpm 3.37 m/sec 627 HP

Engine SFC = 0.7 lbs fuel/HP-Hr $0.7 \div (60 \times 60) = 0.000194$ lbs/HP-Sec

Using averaging:

0000ft → 3000ft $(2.94 + 3.08) \div 2 = 3.01$ m/sec = 9.87 ft/sec

$(550 + 575) \div 2 = 562.5$ HP 3000ft @ 9.87 ft/sec = 304 sec

$(304 \text{ sec} \times 0.000194 \text{ Lbs fuel/Hp-sec} \times 562.5 \text{ HP}) = 33.2$ lbs fuel

3000ft → 6000ft $(3.08 + 3.22) \div 2 = 3.15$ m/sec = 10.33 ft/sec

$(575 + 599) \div 2 = 587$ HP 3000ft @ 10.33 ft/sec = 290.4 sec

$(290.4 \text{ sec} \times 0.000194 \text{ lbs fuel/Hp-sec} \times 587 \text{ HP}) = 33$ lbs fuel

6000ft → 9000ft $(3.22 + 3.37) \div 2 = 3.295$ m/sec = 10.81 ft/sec

$(599 + 627) \div 2 = 613$ HP 3000ft @ 10.81 ft/sec = 277.5 sec

$(277.5 \text{ sec} \times 0.000194 \text{ lbs fuel/HP-sec} \times 613 \text{ HP}) = 33$ lbs fuel

Level Flying at 9000ft Altitude, at 108 ft/sec = 70.63 mph:

needs from the engine 111.8 Nm @ 5789.8 rpm = 67.7 kW = 90.8 HP

$(0.7 \text{ lbs fuel/HP-Hr})(90.8 \text{ HP}) = 63.56$ lb/hr

Take-off fuel load 600lbs - 100lbs ascent = 500 lbs remaining

$(500 \text{ lbs fuel}) \times (63.56 \text{ lbs fuel/hr level flying}) = 7.86$ Hrs level flying

$(7.86 \text{ Hrs}) \times (70.64 \text{ mph}) =$ range at 9000ft altitude = 555 miles