

Skydio Dock for X10 Flight System

Inspection and Maintenance Intervals and Safety Guidelines



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This section covers

Customer-provided Maintenance

Skydio-provided Maintenance

Annual Inspection and Maintenance

Contacting Skydio Support

Customer-provided Maintenance

Drone maintenance and Dock for X10 Flight System updates must be performed by the customer. This includes software updates for the X10 drone, the Dock for X10, and the External Radio.

Functional Check Flights are recommended at the end of each maintenance cycle.



WARNING: Refer to the Skydio Dock for X10 Flight System Safety Guidelines prior to engaging in any maintenance activity. Failure to maintain the Skydio Dock for X10 Flight System may result in system performance failures. Annual maintenance and internal service work must be performed by Skydio-authorized technicians or Field Services teams. Failure to adhere to this guidance may increase the risk of serious bodily injury and/or property damage.

Maintenance Item	Action	Interval	
Skydio X10 Drone			
Software Update	Perform update	As system updates become available (Release Notes available on Skydio Support)	
Navigation cameras	Gently wipe with microfiber cloth	As-needed or during routine drone service Should be checked regularly; a notification may be received in Remote Flight Deck if drone cameras are dirty and need to be cleaned	
Propellers	Replace	Per 250 hours, or as-needed if damaged Per 100 hours of flying with multiple attachments in high-stress flight conditions* NOTE: Dock for X10 flight systems should be flown using REV 2 propellers	
Battery	Replace	Per 300 battery cycles NOTE: A battery cycle is the depletion of at least 80% of the charge. An undamaged and properly stored battery can be safely used beyond 300 cycles	
Parachute Attachment	Replace	3 years from the date of manufacture WARNING: Early Access Program parachutes have a 6-month expiration	
Skydio Dock for X10			
Software Update	Perform update	As system updates become available (Release Notes available on Skydio Support)	
Dock cameras	Gently wipe with microfiber cloth	As-needed or during routine system service and should be checked regularly	

Skydio-provided Maintenance

Skydio Dock for X10 Flight System Annual Maintenance and as-needed repair services must be performed by Skydio-authorized technicians or Field Services teams.

Functional Check Flights are recommended at the end of each maintenance cycle.

Service	Action	Interval
Skydio X10 Drone		
Annual maintenance	 Clean Dock surfaces Clean Dock cameras Replace Filter Replace belt dampers Replace charger (if needed) Tighten platform hinges Re-clamp user panel magnet Conduct physical inspection Run diagnostic test 	12 months after Installation date and every 12 months thereafter
As-needed repair	Repair or replace a malfunctioning field replaceable unit (FRU)	As-needed in the event that a unit is malfunctioning or damaged

^{*}The duration between maintenance intervals for REV 2 propellers will be extended as flight tests indicate safe use beyond 100 hours of high-stress flight time while configured with multiple attachments. When these changes occur, announcements will be made in upcoming Flight System Updates and reflected in the propeller device page in Skydio Cloud.

Note that any future extensions of propeller lifespans do not modify or limit preflight inspection requirements to ensure operational readiness prior to each flight.

High-stress use of the flight system with multiple attachments is defined as multiple attachments installed on the drone, combined with:

- Sustained flight airspeed above 33 mph (53 km/h)
- Aggressive or max throttle, pitch, and yaw
- Flights conducted in high wind or gust conditions

Dock for X10 Flight System Annual Inspection and Maintenance

After one year of operational use from the date of Installation, the Dock for X10 Flight System is eligible for an Annual Maintenance Inspection and Service, conducted by Skydio-authorized technicians or Field Services teams.

Annual Service visits can be scheduled by contacting Skydio Support.

The Annual Maintenance Inspection includes:

- Diagnostic Test (automated, technician-facing)
- Visual Inspection
- Repair of smaller worn or damaged parts, if necessary (FRUs carried by Field Service Representatives)
- Drone inspection
- Intake filter replacement
- Functional Check Flight

Contacting Skydio Support

For Support needs related to General Care or Scheduled Maintenance, please email us at support@skydio.com, or create a case via https://skydio.com/myrequests.

For urgent troubleshooting, or other requests where real-time assistance is needed, please call 855-463-5902.

Use the **Contact Skydio Support button** within a Device Page to reach out via email or phone.

To view all Support services rendered for your account, visit our Customer Portal via https://skydio.com/myrequests. If you do not have access to the Customer Portal, please email support@skydio.com to request access.

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Dock for X10 Flight System Safety Guidelines



Anyone in the Dock operational area must maintain a 7 ft (2.1 m) distance from the Skydio Dock for X10 while in motion to prevent serious bodily injury. Remote Pilots are responsible for ensuring launch and landing areas are safe and clear for use.



Users must observe all Safety Lighting and Audible Alerts on the Skydio Dock for X10, which caution users to avoid moving parts during operation.



Reflective surfaces greater than 23 in (58 cm) wide (e.g., still water, mirrored windows) pose risk of interference with flight system visual navigation. Thin obstacles (thin branches, chain link fencing, wires, etc.) may also be difficult for the drone to detect. Remote Pilots should exercise caution when flying the drone near reflective surfaces and near small or thin obstacles.



Obstacle avoidance only applies to stationary objects. The drone should not be piloted in proximity to moving objects, including but not limited to other aerial vehicles, cars, and/or animals. The Remote Pilot must yield to all crewed aircraft and perform a Safe State Maneuver if they encounter air traffic or moving obstacles that conflict with their flight path.



Remote Pilots must maintain a distance of at least 10 ft between the X10 drone and emitters (including cell towers) to reduce the risk of electromagnetic interference (EMI).



Remote Pilots must not operate directly over people and moving vehicles without following all required regulations and garnering any required Certificates of Waiver or Authorization (COA).



Skydio X10 is IP55 rated and able to fly in light to moderate rain; however, precipitation may interfere with reliable obstacle avoidance functionality by occluding the navigation cameras. Remote Pilots should disable obstacle avoidance when flying in precipitation.



All users of the flight system are responsible for following FAA and country-specific civil aviation authority regulations, as well as local, state, and federal laws and regulations when operating Skydio X10.



A beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) approval is required to remotely operate docked drones.

Warnings

These advisories indicate a potentially dangerous situation where death or serious injury could occur if precautions are not taken.

- The Remote Pilot in Command (RPIC) is solely responsible for the safe operation of the flight system during all phases of operation.
- Users of the flight system (Remote Pilots, Administrators, Skydio Cloud Users) must follow all
 documentation and observe all warnings provided in: this Operator Manual, the Skydio Dock for X10
 Maintenance Manual, Skydio Safety Guidelines, any warnings or notices printed on the Dock Flight
 System, and any notices or updates provided via Skydio Cloud. Failure to follow any instructions or
 recommendations in our documentation may void the Skydio Limited Warranty.
- The General Care recommendations of the flight system must be followed as defined in the Dock for X10 Maintenance Manual. Users must not attempt to modify, repair, or service any other components of the flight system unless authorized by Skydio. Modifications, repairs, or services are only to be performed by Skydio-authorized technicians and field teams. Attempting to modify, repair, or service any components of the flight system without authorization may compromise the safety of the flight system, increase the risk of serious bodily harm or injury, and may void the Skydio Limited Warranty.
- Users must not handle or access any electrical components within the Dock. All field services and repairs are only to be performed by Skydio-authorized technicians. Contact with electrical components may cause electric shock or burn. Always turn off and lock out electrified equipment before servicing.
- Before flying, Sticky Keys must be disabled on the computer keyboard. Sticky Keys can interfere with the
 pilot's ability to operate the drone safely and can cause unintentional commands to the drone's flight,
 resulting in a collision and/or serious bodily harm or injury. Refer to the computer's Operating System
 manual for instructions on disabling Sticky Keys on the keyboard. If the Sticky Keys setting can not be
 disabled permanently, then this setting will need to be disabled prior to each flight.
- If the gamepad controller has loose joysticks or the joysticks are uncentered, don't recenter, or have stick drift, then this may result in uncommanded movements to the drone during flight. When grounded, pilots should follow the joystick operator manual to calibrate the controller (if available). To determine if the controller is producing drone drift, pilots can hover over the Dock or other safe area with no pilot input. The drone should remain hovering in place, even in windy conditions. If it continues to drift noticeably in a single direction without pilot input, the Remote Pilot should return and land the drone, then replace or recalibrate the controller.
- All limbs must be kept away from the Skydio X10 drone while in motion or while in flight to prevent serious bodily injury.
- The flight system must not be handled while safety lighting and audible alerts are active.

- Overriding an automatically paused flight due to drone-to-drone deconfliction carries a significant risk of mid-air collision. Skydio strongly recommends that pilots avoid overriding deconfliction events when performing operations over people.
- The Remote Pilot may choose to cancel an automated landing or delay the return when the Return Battery capacity has been reached at their own risk. The Remote Pilot is solely responsible for the potential loss of the drone and/or any serious bodily harm and property damage that may result.
- If the drone enters Attitude Mode, it will immediately begin a slow descent and perform an Emergency Landing without the ability for pilot input. Emergency Landings cannot be canceled. Exercise caution when operating with only a single navigation source. There is an increased risk of collision and/or serious bodily injury or harm when the drone is Emergency Landing.
- Exceeding the recommended hours of propeller flight times significantly increases risk of failure. Users are responsible for proactively tracking, examining, and replacing propellers to maintain optimal flight safety and reliability.

Cautions

These advisories indicate a potentially hazardous situation where minor or moderate injury could occur if precautions are not taken. Also used to highlight actions that could result in hardware damage, flight performance issues, or non-compliance with operational standards.

- Flight system use carries inherent risk; any operational use external to the guidelines described in this manual may incur undue operational risk and violate the terms of Skydio's Limited Warranty or Skydio Care.
- Skydio Dock for X10 has motorized moving parts, which can create pinch points and increase the risk of injury. All labels and warnings on the Dock must be observed.
- Propeller blades are sharp and should be handled with extreme caution and care. Fingers must be kept away from moving propellers at all times, as serious injury and/or damage may occur.
- The chassis of Skydio X10, the Dock for X10, and External Radio may become hot to the touch when powered on for long periods of time, when in high-temperature environments, or when exposed to direct sunlight. The components of the flight system should be handled with extreme caution and care under these conditions.
- When the flashlight on the VT-300L is in use, pilots should avoid staring directly into the light at any range or for any extended period of time.
- The Remote Pilot and their organization/agency are responsible for proactively tracking, examining, and replacing Skydio X10 drone propellers and batteries, as well as monitoring system faults to maintain optimal flight safety and reliability based on flight system maintenance guidelines.
- Air outlets or air intakes (aka vents) on the Skydio X10 or Skydio Dock for X10 must remain unobstructed.

- The drone navigation cameras, propellers, attachments, and Sensor Package must remain unobstructed and unoccluded.
- The thermal camera (Sensor Package) should not be pointed directly at the sun, or other high intensity energy sources for prolonged periods of time. Doing so may cause burn-in on the thermal sensor and can cause prolonged or permanent damage to the thermal camera.
- No Attachments other than NightSense, Parachute, Speaker, or Spotlight should be connected to the Skydio X10 when flying the drone using the Dock for X10 Flight System. Skydio Interface Control Document (ICD) is not compatible with the Dock for X10 Flight System.
- Third party equipment/accessories are not supported with the Dock for X10 Flight System.
- The rear USB-C port should always be used when charging the drone outside of the Dock. Attaching the power adapter to the accessory ports may damage the drone.

Aviation Safety and Regulatory Compliance

- The Remote Pilot in Command is solely responsible for safe operation of the flight system during all phases of operation.
- Remote Pilots must never fly near or interfere with crewed aircraft operations.
- A beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) approval is required to remotely operate docked drones. If the organization does not hold an approval by the time of deployment, then all operations must be conducted within the visual line of sight of a certificated pilot located onsite. In the United States the FAA issues waivers or certificates of authorization (COAs). In Canada the Transport Canada issues a Special Flight Operations Certificate (RPAS). In Japan the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau issues Flight Approvals.
- All users of the flight system must follow their agency's policy, best practices, requirements, etc. for safe flight. Remote Pilots must follow Code of Federal Regulations - Part 107—Small Unmanned aircraft systems for guidance on Remote Pilot best practices for safe flight. https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-14/chapter-I/ subchapter-F/part-107
- All users of the flight system must always follow FAA and country-specific civil aviation authority regulations, as well as local, state, and federal laws and regulations when operating Skydio X10.
- When running Scheduled Missions, the Remote Pilot in Command must directly monitor all phases of the flight via Remote Flight Deck. Loss of control of the sUAS may lead to serious bodily harm of individuals in the operating environment.
- The Remote Pilot must not leave the Remote Piloting Station unattended during any active flights. Pilots must not exit Remote Flight Deck while actively flying the drone. The Remote Pilot in Command must directly monitor all phases of the flight via Remote Flight Deck. The Dock, External Radio, and any other system components should never be unplugged or disconnected during flight.

- Remote Pilots must not use generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) to launch or operate Skydio drones. Skydio drones must be launched and operated under direct human supervision and control at all times. Using third-party AI tools to initiate launch sequences or conduct remote flights—whether via simulator or in live operations—is strictly prohibited. These workflows may violate FAA regulations (including Part 107.12 and 107.19), pose a significant safety risk, as well as void warranty coverage in the event of damage or loss. A qualified Remote Pilot should always be actively managing flight operations.
- Remote Pilots must not operate directly over people and moving vehicles without following all required regulations and garnering any required Certificates of Waiver or Authorization (COA).
- Remote Pilots and Administrators must ensure drones are registered with the FAA using https:// faadronezone-access.faa.gov/#/
- Remote Pilots must not fly in environments where the use of drones is restricted or not authorized. Users should consult resources such as https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started or apps like AutoPylot for additional information.
- In rare circumstances, non-cooperative crewed aircraft may not be transmitting ADS-B. These aircraft will not show up on the map. Remote Pilots should maintain situational awareness at all times.
- The Public Safety Lights option is only for strict use by authorized users comprising public safety first responders and emergency personnel performing a public safety mission. When operating in airspace viewable to the public, unauthorized users must refrain from using these police or emergency lights. Failure to comply may result in violations of local laws, regulations and ordinations and could subject the noncompliant user to civil or criminal penalties, fines, or other legal consequences.
- The Remote Pilot must fly with the Parachute attached and armed when operating over people.

Preflight Considerations

- Each Safe Landing Point should be a flat, unobstructed area that's open to the sky and at least 16 ft (~4.8 m) across to allow for safe descent and touchdown. When setting up a Dock, at least one Safe Landing Point is required near the Dock. Safe Landing Points should be located in areas where the drone can safely land and be easily recovered. Ensure Safe Landing Points are clearly visible at the physical Site so they remain free of obstruction. Move Safe Landing Points if the selected area becomes unusable for safe landings.
- Sites created inside Skydio Cloud should not be created with any Geofences that have any narrow passages (less than 15 feet / 5 meters of space between walls, floors, and ceilings). Remote pilots should not attempt to pass through any narrow Geofence passages that have less than 15 feet (5 m) of space between walls, floors, and ceilings.
- Sites created inside Skydio Cloud should not have any 'floating' Geofences or unnecessary complexity added to the Geofence Zones. Flying through complex Geofence environments limits the Remote Pilot's ability to safely maneuver in the event of air traffic, obstacles, or other flight hazards.
- Skydio X10 relies on clean cameras for safe and accurate navigation. If a dirty camera is detected during flight, the system will display a warning in Remote Flight Deck. If a dirty camera is detected, clean the navigation cameras with a microfiber cloth prior to the next flight.
- Remote Pilots should use the inspection camera on the Dock to check for visible damage or debris on the drone, including the propellers, arms, any attachments, and chassis. Any attachments must be fully seated and plugged into the appropriate attachment bay. The battery must be fully seated in the drone. For more information, visit Preflight > Check the Condition of the Drone using the Dock Inspection Camera.
- Remote Pilots should never fly with damaged propellers. If propeller damage is suspected (e.g., cracks, nicks, bends, or other visible damage), Remote Pilots should not proceed with the flight. Skydio recommends replacing all four propellers at once prior to the next flight.
- Remote Pilots should use the inspection camera on the Dock to ensure that all four arms are fully deployed before launch. Incomplete deployment may result in unstable flight or loss of control.
- Remote Pilots must monitor the Device Pages, Fleet health statuses, and system notifications for any errors or degraded operational states. Delay the mission if any condition may compromise flight safety, and resume only after the issue has been resolved.

Safety Guidelines: Attachments

NightSense

- When flying with NightSense active, Skydio X10 will be limited to a max speed of 18 mph (8 m/s) in ideal conditions.
- After prolonged use of the NightSense attachments, they may be hot to the touch and could cause burns. After landing, wait for the attachments to cool down before handling.
- Users should avoid staring directly into the modules at close range. NightSense attachments, both Visible and Infrared, may cause eye damage if held closer than an arm's reach for 30 seconds or more.
- Due to potential burn risk and eye damage, Skydio does not recommend Hand Landing the drone while using NightSense.
- NightSense cannot be used to satisfy civil aviation anti-collision or position lighting requirements. Always use the appropriate RGB and/or strobe lighting options on the drone when required.

Parachute

- When Parachute is in use, note that only one additional attachment may be initialized on the X10 drone.

 Adjustments in operational planning may be necessary to accommodate reduced attachment availability.
- The Skydio Parachute for X10 ("Parachute") is not a replacement for safe flying practices.
- Skydio X10 must not be hand launched or hand landed with Parachute enabled.
- The Parachute must not be modified, as doing so may result in injury or impair performance leading to damage of property or harm to individuals, and void the warranty.
- When armed, the Parachute must not be handled or pointed toward people or property.
- When flying operations over people with the Parachute attached, the Remote Pilot must not operate the sUAs below an altitude of 100 feet/30.5m above the ground except for takeoff and landing and must ensure that takeoff and landing occurs sufficiently away from persons on the ground to prevent near or actual impact into them. If the Parachute is deployed below 100 feet, it may not have sufficient time to slow the drone's descent potentially causing damage and/or serious bodily harm or injury.
- A clear area of at least 6.5 ft (2 m) should be maintained when the Parachute is powered on and armed.
 A green flashing LED on the Parachute indicates that it is armed. A solid green LED signifies that the Parachute is in 'Standby' mode, meaning it is enabled but not yet armed. A solid red LED indicates that the Parachute is disarmed. No LED illumination signifies either that the Parachute is not powered or that it has already been deployed.

- If the Parachute is dropped and the lid becomes detached, it will need to be sent back to Skydio for repacking.
- Users should not attempt to charge the Parachute or connect it to anything other than the appropriate attachment bay on Skydio X10.
- The Parachute attachment is designed to deploy automatically based on detection of abnormal flight conditions. Remote Pilots may also deploy the Parachute manually, if they determine it is safe and desirable to do so. In the event of an emergency landing due to system error, the Parachute may not be able to be deployed.

Spotlight

- Users should not stare directly into the Spotlight at any distance or for any extended period of time.
- The Spotlight may become extremely hot during or immediately after use. During this time, users should avoid touching the Spotlight and avoid allowing it to come into contact with other materials.
- The Spotlight must not be left on while inside the Dock.

Batteries

- Batteries that are cracked, swollen, dented, gouged, or otherwise visibly damaged should not be used.
- Battery packs must not be dismantled, opened, or shredded.
- Cells or batteries must not be exposed to heat or fire. Storage in direct sunlight should be avoided.
- A cell or battery should never be short-circuited. Batteries or cells stored haphazardly in a box or drawer may short-circuit each other or be short-circuited by other metal objects.
- Skydio X10 uses magnets to retain the battery, which may attract metallic debris. The battery bay and battery contacts should be periodically inspected to ensure they are clean and undamaged.
- Cells or batteries should not be subjected to mechanical shock.
- In the event of a cell leak, users should avoid contact between the liquid and skin or eyes. If contact occurs, the affected area should be thoroughly rinsed with copious amounts of water, and medical advice should be sought.
- Only the charger specifically provided for use with the equipment should be used. Users should always use the correct charger and refer to the manufacturer's instructions or equipment manual for proper charging procedures.
- The Dock for X10 Flight System requires Dock-compatible batteries in order for the drone to charge from the Dock.
- Any cell or battery that is not designed for use with the equipment should not be used.
- Cells and batteries should be kept out of the reach of children.
- Cells and batteries should be kept clean and dry.
- Batteries should not be left on prolonged charge when not in use.
- Batteries should be properly disposed of according to local laws and government agency's instructions.

Environment

- Skydio X10 is IP55 rated, providing protection from limited dust ingress and light to moderate precipitation conditions; it is recommended to not fly in heavy dust conditions or heavy precipitation.
- Skydio X10 Dock is IPX6 for water ingression when it is closed and IPX5 for water ingression when it is open. We do not recommend opening the Dock in heavy dust conditions or heavy precipitation.
- The Dock should not be opened in winds greater than 40 mph.
- Flight in icing conditions is not supported and may result in the loss of the drone.
- The Remote Pilot should ensure the flight environment has good initial visibility and will have good visibility throughout the duration of the flight.
- Remote Pilots should fly cautiously over bodies of water as low relative-altitude flight may degrade or impair autonomous flight performance. Before flying over bodies of water, pilots should ensure the drone has a strong GPS signal. Fly at least 10 ft (3 m) above the surface of the water.
- Failure to acquire strong GPS prior to flight over water may result in erratic flight and/or emergency landing and total loss of the drone.
- Skydio X10 requires good visibility to retain its obstacle avoidance capabilities. Obstacle avoidance is off during Low Light mode (without NightSense enabled) and can also be impaired when in low light and poor visibility. Flight under these conditions should be conducted with extreme caution and care.
- Skydio does not recommend flying the X10 in gusts at or above 28 mph (45 km/h) or in temperatures less than -4°F (-20°C) or more than 113°F (45°C). This can result in serious injury and/or damage including total loss of the drone.
- Leaving the Skydio Dock for X10 open for over two minutes consecutively in very cold or very hot temperatures is not recommended and may result in reduced battery performance and could also lead to icing the Dock in very cold temperatures.

Flying Safely

- Remote pilots should adhere to all warnings and alerts provided in Remote Flight Deck and Skydio Cloud.
- Skydio Autonomy does not replace responsible piloting of the drone. The Remote Pilot in Command is responsible for all flight operations. Always follow all Safety Guidelines.
- Skydio X10 can't see certain visually challenging obstacles. Remote Pilots should not fly around thin branches, telephone or power lines, ropes, netting, wires, chain link fencing, or other objects less than 0.5 inch (1.3 centimeters) in diameter. This type of crash is not covered under the Skydio Limited Warranty.

- Skydio obstacle avoidance may be degraded around transparent or reflective surfaces, windows, mirrors, or still water greater than 23 in (58 cm) wide. Remote Pilots should fly with caution and reduce speed when operating near these obstacles.
- Remote Pilots should not intentionally try to crash Skydio X10.
- Skydio X10 should never be launched or landed near moving equipment. Skydio does not avoid moving vehicles. Fly with extreme caution and care around moving obstacles including but not limited to other aerial vehicles, cars, and/or animals.
- Remote Pilots must maintain a distance of at least 10 ft between the X10 drone and emitters (including cell towers) to reduce the risk of electromagnetic interference (EMI). EMI may lead to camera failures, potentially impacting situational awareness of the remote pilot during operation. Disruptions to both controlled and autonomous flight may lead to a total loss of the vehicle and pose a risk of serious bodily injury.
- Remote Pilots must exercise extreme caution and care when the sun is low on the horizon as it can temporarily blind the Skydio X10 navigation cameras depending on the angle of flight. The drone may exhibit irregular flight behavior when flying directly toward the sun.
- Flying at high altitudes may significantly increase the time required to return and safely land the Skydio X10. Though Remote Flight Deck will show battery remaining indicators in the telemetry, and will initiate automatic low battery returns, it is ultimately the pilots responsibility for managing altitude, range and battery level at all times.
- If landing in place, Remote Pilots should fly to a clear area where the ground is open and flat. Areas with people, animals, and moving objects should be avoided as well as areas with lots of fine pebbles, sand, rocks, or similar materials.
- Users should not attempt to hand catch Skydio X10 while it is landing in the Dock.
- Users should not attempt to hand catch Skydio X10 before obstacle avoidance is disabled automatically during landing. Attempting to hand catch Skydio X10 while obstacle avoidance is still active may result in serious injury and/or damage.
- If Landing in Place (outside the Dock), always monitor Skydio X10 during landing. Be prepared to use the "nudge" feature or cancel the landing if Skydio X10 is landing in an undesirable location. Use extreme caution and care when landing on elevated platforms, such as the roof of a car or truck, as the Skydio X10 may move laterally to avoid the platform before descending to the 10 ft (3 m) threshold.

