Another micro quad? NOT! The Ares Ethos QX 130 is definitely not just another micro quad. This little quad packs a lot of features with the added benefit of some cool optional accessories to really drive up the fun factor and the best part is that it costs less than $100 bucks and it is backed by the nation’s largest hobby retail chain, HobbyTones. Every model that we have received and tested from Ares to date has impressed us by being well constructed, easy to fly and backed by great support and the QX 130 is no different. Let’s dive into this quad and see what makes it tick and what makes it stand out from others in its class.

**Pros**
- Flight controller and software make the QX 130 very stable and easy to fly for beginners
- Optional accessories add a new fun factor to flying a quad that is exclusive to the Ethos
- Comes with everything you need to start flying, including the "AA" batteries
- Integrated lighting system makes it easy to fly and maintain orientation in low light conditions

**Cons**
- Wires are fragile when plugging in and removing accessories - use caution when removing plugs so you don’t pull the wires out

**Author’s Opinion**

The Ares Ethos QX 130 is a very stable and easy to fly quadcopter, thanks to its integrated 3-axis gyro and 3-axis accelerometer. The QX 130’s software package is designed to ensure first-time pilots are successful and with features like the “Automatic Flip Mode”, experienced pilots will have a blast too. The best part of the QX 130 is that you can accessorize it... YES, you can add.modules to shoot water, mini plastic rockets, and even bubbles. You can also add a tow winch to lift objects or you can add a camera to record airborne videos.

**NEED TO KNOW**
- **Manufacturer:** Ares RC
- **Distributor:** Sold exclusively by HobbyTown USA stores
- **Type:** Quadcopter
- **For:** Beginner
- **Minimum flying area:** Large room or outdoors with less than 10 mph wind
- **Price:** $99.99
- **Needed to complete:** Includes 4-channel transmitter, "AA" batteries for the transmitter, 500mAh 1S 3.7V LiPo battery and AC charger
IN THE AIR
After fully charging the included 500mAh LiPo battery, I headed out to the back yard for a little testing. The flight pack must be plugged in within five seconds of turning on the transmitter to successfully bind the radio to the machine, which is a bit of a hassle when the canopy is mounted, but is easily performed without the canopy on. It is also imperative that the QX 130 be placed on a flat, level surface while the arming procedure is performed. Once I got the units in sync, I opened the canopy back on and axially lifted the little quad off the ground. It immediately assumed a steady hover, requiring very little input to keep it in one place. The stable nature of the QX 130 is sure to be a hit with novices and was a welcome characteristic in my small, but treeless yard.

Propellers were easy and had very little cyclic effect on the quad, spinning both left and right with ease. Both forward/backward and side to side motion was surprisingly fast, and predictable. Within a minute of lift-off, I had the QX 130 performing high-speed circuits around the yard, using the small trees as pylons. A few 3D-axed brushless with some small branches sent the airplane wobbling, but allowing the sticks re-center instantly recovered a stable hover. The high rates might seem a bit twitchy for a beginner but in low settings, the QX 130 was more than easy to fly. Gaining a bit more altitude, I was eager to try the auto flip function of the QX 130. Once I was a few minutes high, I switched into high rates and tapped the flip button with my left index finger. Once this is done, any cyclic input beyond fifty percent sent the little quad tumbling a full 360 degrees in whichever direction I wanted. While it did require a bit of height in order to recover from a flip, this is clearly stated in the manual so I was ready for it. Once I had grown accustomed to such maneuvers, flips while in high speed were a breeze and also very fun. I had the 130 soaring across the yard in forward flight while performing backwards and side flips, creating quite the chronographed display. Flight times were a bit on the low side, especially when utilizing any of the peripheral attachments on the body, but extra batteries are cheap and they charge up rather quickly.

ADVANCED CONTROL SYSTEM
While it is true that all quadcopters are equipped with some kind of 3-axis gyro and accelerometer to make this stable enough to fly, it’s the software that drives the ETHOS QX 130’s controller that sets it apart. The system is designed to perform well for both beginners and advanced pilots alike. The software is capable of both agile flight and maximum stability right out of the box. I have flown a lot of aircraft, helicopters and multicopters and the QX 130 has a really “locked-in” feel to it. With high rates it almost feels like you are piloting a racing quad. The Automatic Flip Mode allows nearly anyone to perform 360 degree flips in any direction with the simple push of a button; a feature that takes the boredom out of flying a typical micro quad. The QX 130 is large enough to fly outdoors in winds up to 10 mph, but it is still small enough to be flown safely indoors. The integrated lighting system makes it very easy to see the orientation of the QX 130 when flying in the dark.

THE LAST WORD
The Ares QX 130 is a great little quad and on its own is a lot of fun and flies great. It is stable enough for beginners, but has advanced features like the ability to flip and roll that will keep advanced pilots entertained. The roll “now” factors for this machine are the options to accessorialize it. A quad with a squirt gun? How cool is that? Another thing that I love about the Ares products are that they are backed and supported by HobbyTown USA, so you know parts are always available at your nearest store.

CONTACTS
ARES ETHOS QX130
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OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES
Digital Camera (P # A2SH1322)
Winch Unit (P # A2SH1321)
Water Blasting Unit (P # A2SH1324)
Rocket Launcher Unit (P # A2SH1323)
Bubble Machine Unit (P # A2SH1325)

DIGITAL CAMERA
The digital camera capable of taking both video and still photos with the push of a button on the transmitter during flight. The camera includes a microSD card with 2GB of memory, which is more than enough to store up to 90 minutes of video or hundreds of still photos.

ROCKET LAUNCHER
A rocket launcher can be added so you can setup targets and remotely fire little plastic missiles. This is great fun, especially when flying against a friend to see who has the best flying and aiming skills.

WATER BLASTER
If you are like me and want to have some fun with co-workers around the office then the water blaster squirt gun attachment is the ticket. Load it with water using the included filler and activate it by pressing the A button on the transmitter. Trust me…your co-workers will love it!

BUBBLE MACHINE
If you are into flying with a little disco music playing in the background then maybe the Bubble Machine is the attachment for you. It is actually very cool to be hovering around as the air fills with bubbles. Yes, I would say this is a unique option.

WINCH
The last cool accessory is a working winch. You can setup the basket and hook a flight with the included grappling hook and deliver it to the rendezvous.

SCHEMATIC

ACCESSORIZE YOUR QUAD
One of the neat features that sets the QX 130 apart from other micro quads on the market is the line of fun accessories that you can easily add to your machine.

SPECS
FLYING WEIGHT: 3.1 oz. (90g)
LENGTH: 8.1 in. (205mm)
HEIGHT INCLUDING ROTOR BLADES: 12.3 in. (310mm)
HEIGHT: 2.8 in. (70mm)
PROPELLER DIAMETER: 5.7 in. (145mm)
TRANSMITTER: 4-Channel 2.4GHz (Included)
TRANSMITTER: 5-in-1 receiver ESC mixer 3-axis gyro/3-axis accelerometer (Installed)
POWER SYSTEM: Geared micro coreless motors (4)
BATTERY: 1S 500mAh LiPo (Included)
DURATION: 5-8 minutes

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