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..: HQ : Beamer III review.

- ➔ **Review : Beamer III**
- ➔ **Size : 4m**
- ➔ **Skill Level : beginner**
- ➔ **Company : HQ**
- ➔ **Author : pikfjaes**
- ➔ **Submit Date : 6/7/2007**

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Build Quality		Not yet rated
Performance		Not yet rated
Handling		Not yet rated
Practicality		Not yet rated
Value for money		Not yet rated
Overall		Not yet rated

racekites.com thinks

This review has scored 4 out of a possible 5 points and has 0 comments

After much speculation and trawling through lots of reviews, I finally made up my mind about what kite to buy as my first 4 line traction kite. It was recently my mate's birthday and his missus bought him a beamer II 3,6m, which I had a go at flying. That seemed enough fun to me, so why not get the newer upgraded version for only a few quid extra.

Placed the order with Extreme Kiteshop, and was pleased to have the kite after 3 days. Only thing was it arrived 10 minutes before I had to go to work - bummer. The next day had sunshine and perfect wind though, so off I went to my spot - the Aviemore football pitch for the setup and maiden flight.

Setting up this kite was an absolute doddle following the easy to read instructions. Everything is colour coded, handles are coloured red for left and blue for right and if that is not enough, L and R is printed on the appropriate handles. I find the grip comfortable on these handles as well. It feels like they are a bit narrower than the ones with Beamer II .

Lines seem to have improved too. These are now colour coded with power lines matching the handles and brake lines, which are both grey, having coloured sleeving. This makes life a bit easier during setup - especially if you haven't done it before.

Now for the kite - this doesn't look anything like it's predecessor. There's definitely been some attention paid to details at this end of it all. The kite itself seems of a slightly sturdier quality than before and I like the new graphics - no boring white bottom skin anymore. Bridles seem stronger as well and I like the brake line adjuster on the kite leader lines to allow for stretch in the powerlines. since I bought this kite i have had a bit of stretch in these but with the adjusting system this is not an issue at all - just move the brake lines down a knot or 2.

Having connected the lines to both the handles and the kite, it was time to add on the elasticised and quite comfortable wrist leashes supplied in the package and get ready for the maiden flight.

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The wind was picking up a fair bit probably around 18mph, so launching was not a problem at all - the kite climbed effortlessly to the zenith - I was the one having to make the effort not to get pulled off my feet and on to my face. Once at the zenith the kite felt very stable. It just sat there waiting for me to give the next command. Tried flying out to the edges of the window and there seems to be plenty of pull. Only thing was the wind was fairly lumpy that day and there was a couple of collapses and stalls, but that was easily sorted with a few tugs on the handles.

I found steering the kite was very easy indeed - the kite does exactly what you tell it to do and doesn't produce any nasty surprises - after flying it for about half an hour, I felt comfortable flying it in figures of eight through the power zone for some good scudding. I even managed to get a couple of little jumps in. The lift in this kite is nothing to write home about, but in my opinion that makes for a good beginners kite as there is one less thing to worry about. I wouldn't like to be lofted 10 -15 feet into the air on my first flight. I think the Beamer III has enough lift, though, to give a beginner like me an idea of the dynamics of jumping with a kite, and it has got me looking for something with more lift.

Since i bought this kite I have had it out in a few different conditions - everything from just a light breeze to just past the point where I probably should have stayed at home and watched kite crash videos on youtube:).

The kite prefers a decent breeze and likes to be powered up, but anything over 10 mph this is a delight to fly and it handles gusty conditions well which is good for someone like me who doesn't have the luxury of a beach on my doorstep. It has a good amount of pull as well - I'm pretty sure it has a bit more power than the old Beamer. The stability of this kite I think would make it ideal as a trainer kite for both boarding and buggying. I'm still waiting to get a board but will post my point of view when that time comes.

Conclusion is, this is a very user friendly kite that I would definitely recommend to anyone looking for an entry into powerkiting. The kite comes complete with lines, handles, wrist leashes and a good quality ground stake, all packed in a decent rucksack, still with HQ's trademark comedy panzer-zip. All at a very competitive price of round about 130 quid so if you're looking for a first time kite, go get yourself under a Beamer III, it's well worth the pennies.

Author : [pikfjaes](#)

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