We have a few questions about Amazon's flying indoor security camera drone

Should we invite Amazon's internet-connected cameras and voice assistants into our homes? That's been a contentious topic for years — but today, Amazon effectively said "screw it" and announced an entire automated flying indoor robot security system.

Yes, that's right: Amazon's Ring division now has a camera that can theoretically go *anywhere in your home*, not just the direction you initially point it. Or, in Amazon's words: An Innovative New Approach to Always Being Home.

Needless to say, the staff of *The Verge* has a few questions about that.

In no particular order and without naming names:

- Can it go up and down stairs?
- Why does it look like an air humidifier?
- What's battery life like?
- Does the drone play slap bass?
- How does it map your house, anyhow? Where do those pictures go?
- Could someone at Ring HQ fly this camera drone around my house?
- Could one of Ring's employees abroad fly this camera drone around my house?
- Could hackers fly this camera drone around my house?
- Could the *cops* fly this camera drone around my house? What if they had a court order? Is Amazon really going

to say no?
- Is it a good cat toy?
- Can I program it to follow me around and say “HEY! LISTEN!”?
- How far can it fly?
- How far can I throw it?
- ~~What is the airspeed velocity of an unladen swallow?~~
- How well does it dodge Nerf darts? No particular reason for asking.
- Can it be decorated for parties?
- Does Amazon’s catchphrase “Privacy you can hear” mean this drone is actually louder than other drones, or does it simply mean *it is a drone and drones are loud*?
- How does it avoid ceiling fans, lights, and other protruding objects?
- What if I move my furniture?
- Who is liable if it runs into a ceiling fan… or a painting?
- Will it truly only fly when no one is home, and, uh… how does it know that, exactly?
- Does it know not to take off when pets are roaming the house?
- What keeps my cat / dog / monkey / parakeet from swatting it out of the air?
- If I map my house and then close a bunch of doors when I go out, is it going to butt its head on the first door until it passes out and dies?
- On that note, can I trap it in a room?
- How many crashes is it rated for?
- Can you get two of them to battle it out, or is it only one per account?
- How long can it fly?
- What if it doesn’t make it back to its charger in time? Does it fall out of the air?
- Why would anyone with the money to have a home security system choose something that’s this kind of pain in the ass?

- Is it going to be like my Roomba and just become a potato if it encounters an unfamiliar obstacle in the corner?
- Wait, what if I have a motion-sensing alarm (say, from Ring) and then the drone flies in front of the sensor?
- If I pay for Nest Aware and my Amazon Echo hears *a drone flying around inside my house*, will it notify me?
- Will it invite its parents the *2001: A Space Odyssey* monolith and *Mega Man 3*'s Top Man over for holidays or do I have to do that myself?
- If I rob a home and, y'know, wear a mask, is there literally anything this drone could *actually* do to scare me away?
- ~~Could it carry a one-pound coconut?~~
- Can it shoot pepper spray?
- Genuinely, why is there not a pet mode? The only good use for this.
- Can you program it to make the rounds in synch with your Roomba? And will they become friends?
- What if nothing ever happens in my house, because break-ins are not actually that common? Will this just sit in its stand for years, unused?
- Will anyone ever hold Ring accountable for making us all more afraid of strangers even though the statistics show violent crime has fallen sharply?

For the answers we *do* know about Amazon's new Ring drone, here's our news post.

https://www.theverge.com/tldr/2020/9/24/21454943/amazon-ring-always-home-cam-drone-security-biggest-questions