

Airbus A.318

The Airbus A.318 is the smallest of the Airbus Industrie A.320 class of narrow body airliners that are direct competitors with the Boeing range of 737 airliners. The A.318 was the last of the A.320 family to be developed.

Initial planning for the A.320 began in 1977 and crystallised into a firm design that was launched in March 1984. The first A.320 made its first flight on 22 February 1987 and they began entering service in 1988. A stretched version, the A.321, first flew in 1993 and a shortened version, the A.319, first flew in 1995. Airbus began development of the shorter A.318 in 1998 to meet the requirement for a 100 seat airliner. It was launched in April 1999 and the maiden flight came on 15 January 2002. It competes in the airliner market with the Boeing 737-600.

This model represents F-GUGK of Air France in March 2007.

Data: narrow-body medium range airliner. *Engines* two CFM56-5B8/P turbofan engines of 96kN thrust each. *Wing span* 34.10m. *Length* 31.44m. *Maximum take-off weight* 68,000kg. *Cruising speed* 828km/h. *Range* 5,700. *Typical payload* 117 passengers in typical single class layout. *Flight crew* 2.

Revell 1/144 kit with Welsh Models tail and TwoSix Decals completed by Leigh Edmonds in June 2011.



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