

Hawker Hurricane I

When initially flown, the Hurricane was considered as revolutionary but still included some archaic features. The aircraft was initially fitted with a 2 bladed wooden propeller and had fabric covered wings.

The performance of the aircraft was disappointing but replacement of the propeller with a constant speed type and replacement of the wings to a stressed skin type transformed the performance from disappointing to acceptable mediocrity.

One old feature that worked in its favour was the fabric over steel tube construction. The Hurricane was able to absorb a lot of punishment as bullets and cannon shells often passed straight through without damaging the structure.

The airframes could easily be repaired without the use of specialist tooling and a network of civilian companies was set up to overhaul the aircraft. The aircraft only required 2/3 of the time required to build compared to the Spitfire.

Data *Engines* Rolls-Royce Merlin V12 Liquid cooled piston engine of 884 kW. *Wingspan* 12.19m. *Length* 9.83m. *Maximum take-off weight* 3951kg. *Maximum speed* 550km/h. *Range* 970 km. *Armament* four .303in (7.92mm) machine guns. *Crew* 1.

Airfix 1/72 kit completed by Steve Pulbrook in 2020.



THE LITTLE AVIATION MUSEUM