

# North American F-86F

**The North American F-86 Sabre was perhaps the most famous of the early jet fighters. They fought MiG-15s over Korea and went on to serve with most air forces in the 'Free World' in the 1950s and 1960s.**

Design of the North American F-86 began before the end of World War II but was given swept wings when the allies began analysing captured German aeronautical data. The first F-86 flew on 1 October 1947 and entered service from February 1949. The Korean War accelerated development with the F-86F being ordered into production in April 1951, the first ones flying in September 1951 and those with a more powerful engine in early 1952. They gave the United States Air Force a fighter at least equivalent to the MiG-15.

This model represents a F-86F flown by Major John Glenn, later America's first astronaut to circle the earth.

**Data:** *Engine* one General Electric J47-GE-27 turbojet engine of 26.3kN (5910 lb) thrust. *Wing span* 11.91 m (37.12 ft). *Length* 11.30 m (37.54 ft). *Maximum take-off weight* 28,234lbs. *Maximum level speed* 1091 km/h (688 mph). *Range* 2454km (1317 miles). *Armament* six 12.7mm (.50 calibre) machine guns and up to 240 lbs underwing stores. *Crew* 1.

*Heller* 1:72 kit with *Microscale* decals completed by Leigh Edmonds in March 1987.



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