

# Yakovlev Yak-15

The Yak-15 was a transition aircraft between the highly regarded Yak-3 fighter of WWII and the coming generations of jet powered fighters. It combined a jet engine with the established Yak fighter airframe.

The Yak-3 was one of the most successful Russian fighters of World War II. Yakovlev transformed it into a jet fighter by replacing the piston engine in the nose with a jet engine and making other modifications including a new canopy and sheet metal beneath the rear fuselage to protect it from the heat of the jet exhaust. Development began in February 1945 and the first flight was made on 24 April 1946. Two hundred production Yak-15s entered service with the Russian air force during 1947. They were very soon replaced by more advanced fighters including the Yak-23 which was a direct development of this design

This model represents a Yak-15 in Russian service c.1947.

**Data:** single seat fighter. *Engine* one RD-10 turbojet engine of 900kg (1985lb) thrust. *Wing span* 9.20m (30ft 2¼in). *Length* 8.78m (28ft 9¾in). *Maximum take-off weight* 2635kg (5809lb). *Maximum speed* 786km/h (488mph). *Range* 510km (317miles). *Armament* two 23mm NR-23 cannon. *Crew* 1.

*Pioneer 2 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in 1989.*



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