

Douglas DC-8-63F

The Douglas DC-8 was developed in the 1950s in competition to the Boeing 707. Although early versions of the DC-8 were inferior to the 707 the more powerful -60 versions were much better and many remain in service.

The first DC-8 flew in May 1958 and entered service in September 1959. From 1967 Douglas developed the 'Super 60s' with much greater efficiency. The -61 had a fuselage stretched by 11.18m (36ft 8in), the ultra-long range -62 had a wing span increased by 1.83m (6ft) and the -63 combined both improvements. 266 or all versions were built and all versions were also available in a freighter version. Most -60s were re-engined in the 1970s with more efficient engines to become the 'Super 70' series. They were the longest range commercial aircraft of their time which made them very popular on the second-hand market.

This model represents a DC-8-63F, N860FT of Flying Tigers Lines, c.mid-1970s.

Data: long range air freighter. *Engine* four Pratt & Whitney JT3D-7 turbofan engines of 84.62kN (19,000lbs) thrust *Wing span* 45.24m (148ft 3in). *Length* 57.12m (187ft 5in). *Maximum take-off weight* 158,757kg (350,000lb). *Maximum cruise speed* 966km/h (600mph). *Range* 7242km (4500miles).

Revell 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in June 1992.



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