

Northrop YF-23

The Northrop YF-23 was a competitor in the United States Air Force (USAF) Advanced Tactical Fighter Competition held in the early 1990s to select its next generation of fighters. It was not selected for production.

In 1981 the USAF began planning the next generation of fighters to take advantage of new technology, including stealth. In 1985 the USAF sent out technical requests for proposals and Northrop and Lockheed were selected to construct two aircraft each to compete for production contracts. The first YF-23 flew on 27 August 1990 and the second prototype on 26 October. After an extensive test program the Lockheed YF-22 was selected for production and the two YF-23s were sent to aviation museums for display.

This model represents the first YF-23 prototype.

Data: single seat tactical fighter. *Engine* two Pratt & Whitney F119-PW-100s turbofan engines of 35,000 lb thrust each. *Wing span* 13.3m (43ft 7in). *Length* 20.6m (67ft 5in). *Maximum take-off weight* 26,308kg (58,000lb). *Maximum speed* mach 2. *Range* 1200km (745miles). *Armament* one 20 mm M61 cannon and AIM-9 or AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles.

Dragon 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in January 1996.



THE LITTLE AVIATION MUSEUM