

# North American FJ-1

**The North American FJ-1 Fury was among the first generation of jet fighters designed and constructed for service with the United States Navy. They were manufactured in small numbers but were the first operational naval jet fighters.**

In 1944 the United States Navy ordered jet fighters from the Vought, McDonnell and North American companies that were to be available for the invasion of Japan planned for May 1946. The Navy ordered three prototypes and then 100 production FJ-1s in May 1945. The first prototype flew on 11 September 1945 but, with the end of the war, production was cut to only 30 FJ-1s that were delivered between October 1947 and April 1948. Only one squadron, VF-5A (later VF-51), flew the FJ-1 in 1948/49 but, while they were acceptable, performance was poor at high speed and they were uncomfortable to fly. In 1949 they were transferred to the US Navy Reserve where they served as transition trainers.

This model represents a FJ-1 in test service

**Data:** *Engine* one Allison J35A-1 turbojet engine of 18kN thrust. *Wing span* 11.36m (28ft 2in). *Length* 10.48 m (34ft 5in). *Gross weight* 6845kg. *Maximum speed* 547 mph. *Range* 496 miles. *Armament* six 12.7mm (.50 calibre) machine guns. *Crew* one.

*Pegasus* 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in September 1`996.



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