

# Grumman XF5F

**The Grumman XF5F was an experimental fighter developed in the late 1930s to bring a new level of performance to carrier borne fighters. Although only one was manufactured it contributed to the development of later fighters.**

Grumman began development of the XF5F in 1938, bringing together a number of revolutionary concepts including a twin engined carrier borne fighter. The US Navy ordered a prototype on 30 June 1938 and it made its first flight on 1 April 1940. Despite its excellent performance against contemporary fighters it failed to win a production contract. However it remained in use until December 1944 as a development prototype for the more advanced Grumman F7F. The US Army Air Force also ordered a basically similar prototype, the XP-50, but it also failed to reach production

This model represents the sole prototype in 1940.

**Data:** single seat fighter. *Engine* two Wright XR-1820-40/-42 Cyclone 9 cylinder radial piston engines of 895kW (1200hp) each. *Wing span* 12.80m (42ft). *Length* 8.76m (28ft 8½in). *Maximum take-off weight* 4955kg (10,138lb). *Maximum speed* 616km/h (383mph). *Range* 1800km (1200miles). *Armament* four 12.7mm machine guns and two 75kg bombs. *Crew* 1.

*MPM* 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in September 1996.



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