

Bloch MB 200

The Bloch MB 200 was one of Marcel Bloch's earliest successful designs. It served with the French Air Force from 1935 to 1940 but had been withdrawn from front line service before the Battle of France.

The MB 200 was designed to meet specifications for a night bomber in 1932 and the first one flew in June 1933. The first production aeroplane was flown in July 1934 and they equipped 12 French squadrons by the end of 1935. Eventually 208 were delivered and, although they remained in service at the beginning of World War II, they had been relegated to training duties by the time of the German offensive. A further 124 were constructed in Czechoslovakia and later flew for the Bulgarian and Roumanian air forces.

This model represent a typical French Air Force machine, c.1937.

Data: Four seat medium bomber. *Engine* two 649kW (870hp) Gnome-Rhône 14Kirs/Kjrs radial piston engines. *Wing span* 22.45m (73ft 8in). *Length* 16.00m (52ft 6in). *Maximum take-off weight* 7,400kg (16 049lb). *Maximum speed* 285km/h (177mph). *Range* 1000km (621miles). *Armament* three 7.5mm machine guns and up to 1200kg (2646lb) of bombs. *Crew* 4.

KP 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in May 2002.



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