

# Boeing KC-135R

**The KC-135R is the current version of the aerial tanker that was developed during the 1950s to enable United States bomber and fighter to extend their reach around the world.**

The Boeing Model 367-80 swept wing four engined prototype air transport flew for the first time on 15 July 1954. It became the basis of the Boeing 707 airliner and the KC-135 that extend the range of American aircraft through aerial refuelling. The first KC-135A flew in August 1956 and over 800 were made. In 1980 Boeing announced plans to re-engine the aerial tanker with modern turbofan engines to significantly improve their performance. The first KC-135R was delivered in July 1984 and around 432 KC-135As were upgraded to the new standard. They remain in operation today.

This model represents the KC-135R 'Sky Runner' of the 19<sup>th</sup> Air Refuelling Wing, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.

**Data:** long range aerial tanker. *Engines* four CFM International F108-CF-100 turbofan engines of 96.2kN (88 000lbs) thrust. *Wing span* 39.8m (130ft 10in). *Length* 41.5m (136ft 3in). *Maximum take-off weight* 46,284kg (297 000lb). *Maximum speed* 933km/h (532mph). *Range* 2,414km. *Payload* up to 90,700kg of fuel. *Crew* 4.

*AMT* 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in March 2003..



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