

Convair B-36D

The Convair B-36D 'Peacemaker' is the largest bomber to enter operational service and represented the pinnacle of piston engined bomber development. It served the United States during the early years of the Cold War.

Design of the B-36 began in 1941 to give the United States a heavy strategic bomber with intercontinental range. The prototype made its first flight in August 1946 and they began entering service with the United State Air Force in August 1947. They could deliver a huge hydrogen bomb to almost anywhere on the face of the planet and were the front line of the US's nuclear deterrence force until the late 1950s when that role was taken over by missile armed nuclear submarines and B-52s

This model represents 44-92033, c1955.

Data: long range strategic bomber. *Engines* six Pratt & Whitney R-4360-53 radial piston engines of 2800kW (3800 hp) and four General Electric J47-GE-19 turbojet engines of 23.23kN (5200lb st) thrust. *Wing span* 70.10m (230ft). *Length* 49.40m (162ft 1in). *Maximum take-off weight* 162,386kg (358,000lbs). *Maximum speed* 700km/h (435mph). *Range* 6413km (6,800miles). *Armament* sixteen 20mm defensive cannon and bomb load of up to 39,000kg (84,000lb).

Hobbycraft 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in March 2004.



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