

BAC TSR.2

The TSR.2 was developed as a replacement for the Canberra bomber. It could have been one of the most powerful warplanes of the 1960s and 1970s but the project was cancelled before it could demonstrate its potential.

In 1956 the RAF issued a requirement for a powerful Mach 2 strike bomber capable of attacking targets over a range of more than 1000 miles. The BAC proposal was accepted in 1959 and the prototype made its first flight on 27 September 1964. Despite the general success of the design it experienced several problems including faults with engines and undercarriage, and serious cost overruns. As a result the project was cancelled in 1965.

This model represents the first prototype, XR219, in late 1964.

Data: supersonic strike and reconnaissance aircraft. *Engines* two Bristol-Siddeley Olympus B.01.22R turbojet engines of 136.7 kN (30,610 lb) thrust each. *Wing span* 11.27 m (37 ft 1³/₄in). *Length* 27.12 m (89 ft 1¹/₂in). *Maximum take-off weight* 46,357 kg (102,200 lbs). *Maximum speed* Mach 2.15. *Combat range* 1850 km (1150 miles). *Armament* one nuclear or six 450 kg (1000 lb) conventional bombs in internal bomb bay and rocket packs or nuclear weapons on underwing pylons.

Airfix 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in October 2006.



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