

Yermolayev Yer-2

The Yer-2 began life as an airliner but was converted to a strategic bomber for the Soviet Air Force. Despite its potential, Russian focus on tactical aircraft during World War II meant this strategic bomber never showed its worth.

The prototype Yer-2 first flew in 1937 and the first bomber version flew in June 1940. After 128 had been manufactured the German invasion disrupted production. A few were used in bombing raids on Berlin but most were lost in the early months of fighting. A diesel engined version was produced in 1944 and, by 1946, 391 had been produced, but they made little contribution to the Russian war effort.

This model represents a Yermolayev Yer-2 of the 329th Aviation Regiment, Soviet Air Force, in the summer of 1945.

Data: Strategic bomber. *Engines* two Charomsky Ach-30B diesel engines of 100kW (1500hp) each. *Wing span* 23.00m (75ft 5½in). *Length* 16.47m (54ft 7in). *Gross weight* 18,580kg (40,962lb). *Maximum speed* 420km/h (261mph). *Range* 5500km (3107miles). *Armament* up to 5,000kg of bombs, two 12.7mm machine guns and one 20mm cannon. *Crew* 4.

A Model 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in December 2006.



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