

Curtiss XP-62

The Curtiss XP-62 was a heavily armed high performance fighter designed for the US Army Air Corps in the early years of World War II. The low priority given to this project meant it never went into production.

The XP-62 was designed as a heavily armed high performance fighter around a new twin-row engine. Design began in February 1941 and a contract for construction of the first 100 aeroplanes was approved in May 1942. However, the contract was cancelled in July that year because production of the new aeroplane would have interrupted Curtiss's production of urgently needed P-47s.

By this time the prototype was nearing completion so it was finished and made its first flight on 21 July 1943. There was only limited further testing and the aeroplane was scrapped in late 1944.

This model represents the sole prototype, c. July 1943

Data: experimental heavy single seat- fighter. *Engine* one Wright R-3350-17 radial engine of 1716kW. *Wing span* 16.36m. *Length* 12.04m. *Gross weight* 7,553kg. *Maximum speed* 721km/h. *Maximum range* 2,100km. *Armament (proposed)* four 20mm cannon.

Anigrand 1/72 kit. Completed in March 2010.



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