

Renault R35 mod 39

The Renault R35 was one of the most common French light infantry tanks of the late 1930s with about 1685 produced by May 1940. The mod 39 version had an improved main gun that gave the R35 anti-tank capability.

The Renault R35 light infantry tank was designed to replace the Renault FT of World War I vintage. It was selected for production as the result of a 1933 competition for such a tank and German rearmament in 1935 saw the R35 rushed into production with the first series production vehicle delivered in June 1936.

Most R35s were fitted with a 37mm L/21 SA18 main gun which had very poor armour penetration. By 1939 an anti-tank role had become necessary so the more powerful L/38 SA38 cannon was mounted in a modified turret. Later versions of the R35 were fitted with new suspension and became the R40.

This model represents a Renault R35 mod 39 of the commander of an unknown unit during the Battle of France, c. May 1940.

Data: *Engine* one Renault V-4 engine of 82hp. *Hull width* 1.87m. *Hull length* 4.02m. *Height* 2.13m. *Combat weight* 1060 kg. *Maximum speed* 20km/h. *Maximum range* 130km. *Armament* 37mm L/35 SA38 cannon and 7.5mm machine gun. *Crew* 2.

RPM 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in April 2010.



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