

# Avro Ashton

**The Avro Ashton was a test aeroplane designed in the late 1940s. It began as jet powered version of the Avro Tudor airliner and became a testbed for several aviation developments including avionics and engines.**

The Avro Ashton began as a jet engine powered Avro Tudor 9 airliner and was renamed the Ashton. The first one flew on 1 September 1950 and six Ashtons were built using Tudor fuselages. Test flights began in 1950 with evaluation of jet operations, navigation and at least one Ashton was used to test bombing equipment with two streamlined underwing bomb containers. Despite being one of the first jet engined air transports the Ashton was engaged primarily in experimental work and was soon eclipsed by the first of the full scale production airliners, the deHavilland Comet. Only one remains today, on display in a museum.

This model represents Ashton, WB492, which was used as a radar bombing testbed and was destroyed by fire in 1955.

**Data:** *Engines* four Rolls Royce Nene 6 turbojets of 22kN each. *Wing span* 37m. *Length* 27.29m. *Maximum take-off weight* 37,195kg. *Maximum speed* 707km/h. *Range* 2,776km. *Crew* 5.

*S&M Models* 1/144 kit. Completed in March 2011.



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