

Vickers type 432

The Vickers type 432 was a high altitude fighter developed in Britain early in World War II. It was not ordered into production and the only one was scrapped after only 30 hours of test flying at the end of 1944.

Design of this heavy fighter began in 1939. It was initially intended to carry heavy cannons in a dorsal turret but was redesigned in 1941 to meet a Royal Air Force requirement for a high altitude interceptor. To meet this requirement the fighter was equipped with a pressurised cockpit in the nose and the cannon armament was moved to a fairing below the fuselage.

Two prototypes were ordered and the first one flew on 24 December 1942. However it was difficult to handle and could not reach its specified performance. It's competitor, the Westland Welkin, was ordered into production so the second prototype was not completed and the only one was scrapped at the end of 1944.

This model represents the only Vickers 432 fighter in early 1943.

Data: high altitude fighter. *Engine* two Rolls Royce Merlin 61 inline piston engines of 1,133kW each. *Wing span* 17.34m. *Length* 12m. *Maximum speed* 512km/h. *Range* 2,415km. *Maximum take-off weight* 9,150kg. Armament, six 20mm cannon.

Kora 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in September 2011.



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