

# Druine 31

**The Druine 31 Turbulent was designed in France in 1950 and became a popular ultra-light for home-built constructors. They were among the first ultra-light aeroplanes to be approved for construction in Australia.**

The Druine 31 Turbulent was designed by Roger Druine in 1950. He was an aeromodeller who built bigger and bigger models until friends convinced him to build a full scale aeroplane. The 31 was his second design and became a very popular ultra-light aeroplane, some made by companies in Britain and Germany and more home-built by enthusiasts. Many are still in the air today.

Australian aviation authorities were very wary of home-built ultra-light aeroplanes but gave way in the late 1950s, and the Druine 31 was among the first ultra-light designs given approval. A Druine 31, VH-ULI constructed by Keith Jarvis, was the first approved ultra light to fly in South Australia.

This model represents VH-ULI after its first flight in South Australia at Parafield Aerodrome in November 1963.

**Data:** *Engine* one Volkswagen 22kW piston engine (or similar). *Wing span* 6.53m. *Length* 5.30m. *Gross weight* 281kg. *Maximum speed* 210km/h.

*Dujin* 1/72 kit. Completed in February 2012.



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