

Caudron 714

The Caudron 714 was a light-weight fighter made in France during the late 1930s. It turned out to be a failure and was only flown in combat during World War II when no other fighters were available..

The Caudron 714 was developed to meet the requirement for a light-weight fighter using non-strategic materials. The prototype Caudron 710 first flew on 18 January 1936 and the more advanced 714 was ordered into production in November 1938. However, when deliveries started in January 1940 the fighter was found to be seriously flawed and it was withdrawn from service the following month. In all only 53 production machines were delivered.

Despite these problems Polish pilots flew the fighter in the *Warsaw Squadron* of the French Air Force during the Battle of France because no other fighter was available to them.

Eighty of these fighters were diverted to Finland but only six arrived before the fall of France. They were found too dangerous to fly and permanently grounded in September 1940

Data: single seat fighter. *Engine* one Renault 12R 03 inverted V-12 piston engine of 370kW. *Wing span* 8.97m. *Length* 8.63m. *Gross weight* 1,880kg, *Maximum speed* 455k/hr. *Range* 900km. *Armament* four 7.5mm MAC 1934 machine guns. *Crew* 1.

RS Models 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in December 2012.



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