

Antonov An-124

The Antonov An-124 is one of the largest aeroplanes in the world and is the largest commercially operated cargo aeroplane. It was manufactured in Ukraine and twenty-six were in commercial service in 2019.

The Antonov An-124 was developed to give the USSR armed forces a strategic heavy lift aeroplane equivalent to the United States C-5. Design work started in 1974, construction began in 1979 and the first flight took place in December 1982. Production continued until the break-up of the Soviet Union. There are plans to recommence production with an improved version but this was suspended due to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

In addition to Russian military service, many are in airline service carrying very large and heavy payloads around the world.

This model represents an Antonov An-124 in service with Volga-Dnepr, in association with HeavyLift Cargo Airlines, in early 2000.

Data: very high capacity long range airfreighter. *Engine* four Progress D-18T turbofan engines of 229.1kN each. *Wing span* 73.3m. *Length* 69.1m). *Maximum take-off weight* 402,000kg. *Cruising speed* 865km/h. *Range* 5800km. *Useful payload* 150,000kg. *Crew* 6.

Revell 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in December 2012.



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