

Northrop XP-79B

The Northrop XP-79B was an experimental rocket powered fighter developed in the United States during World War II. It was not a success and the prototype was lost during its first flight.

The Northrop XP-79 was originally planned to be a rocket powered flying-wing fighter. Planning began in 1942 and in January 1943 a contract was issued for three prototypes. Because of the corrosive nature of the rocket propellant the aeroplane was constructed of welded magnesium. As it turned out, the proposed rocket engine proved unsatisfactory so development proceeded using the newly developed jet engine instead, under the designation XP-79B and only one was made.

The prototype was lost and the pilot killed during its first flight on 12 September, and the project was cancelled soon after.

This model represents the only aeroplane in September 1945.

Data: Experimental fighter *Engine* two Westinghouse 19-B (J30) turbojet engines of 5.1kN thrust each. *Wing span* 8.54m. *Length* 4.27m. *Loaded weight* 3,932kg. *Maximum speed* 880km/h. *Range* 1,598km. *Proposed armament* four 12.7mm machine guns. *Crew* one.

RS Models 1/72 kit. Completed in May 2013.



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