

CAC CA-17 Mustang Mk.20

The CAC Mustang was an Australian made version of the successful North American P-51D fighter. The first eighty were made from kit sets as CA-17s and a further 120 were made locally as CA-18s.

The North American P-51 Mustang was one of the best American fighters of World War II. In 1943 the Australian government selected it to be manufactured under licence in Australia by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation. So the fighter could enter production as quickly as possible eighty kit sets were supplied to CAC and assembled with the designation CA-17. The first one was delivered to the RAAF on 4 June 1945 and squadrons were working up for operations when the war ended. Another 120 Mustangs were made locally as the CA-18.

This model represents CAC CA-17 Mustang, A68-71 in service with 78 Squadron, RAAF, in late 1946.

Data: single-seat fighter. *Engines* one Packard Merlin V-1650-7 V-12 piston engine of 1110kW. *Wing span* 11.28m. *Length* 9.83m. *Gross weight* 4263kg. *Maximum speed* 636km/h. *Range* 1529km. *Armament* six 12.7mm machine guns and up to two 450kg bombs or 127mm rocket projectiles.

Academy 1:72 kit with *Red Roo Models* decals completed by Leigh Edmonds in November 2011.



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