

Myasishchev M-6 (Bison-B)

The Myasishchev M-6 (Bison-B) was a long range maritime patrol aircraft used by the USSR from the 1960s to the 1990s. It had been planned as a long range strategic bomber but was not successful in that role.

The Myasishchev M-4 (named Bison-A by NATO) was designed as a strategic bomber similar to the US B-52 bomber and first flew in January 1953. However it lacked range due to its high fuel consumption and aerodynamic problems. An improved version, the M-6 (Bison-B) with aerodynamic improvements and better engines, was made in 1955 but it's primary role became long range maritime patrol.

A later Bison-C version was produced but the Bison was not a very successful bomber and only 95 were manufactured, many being converted to aerial refuellers. The last one was retired from service in 1994.

This model represents a production Bison-B during the 1960s

Data: Long range maritime patrol bomber. *Engines* four Mikulin AM-3A turbofan engines of 85.5kN thrust each. *Wing span* 50.5m. *Length* 47.2m. *Maximum take-off weight* 138,5000kg. *Maximum speed* 947km/h. *Range* 5,600km. *Crew* 8. *Armament* 9 × 23 mm AM-23 cannon and up to 12,000kg of weapons.

Anigrand 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in September 2016.



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