

De Havilland Vampire F.1

The deHavilland Vampire was Britain's second jet fighter. It was too late to see service during World War 2 but entered service in 1946 and soon replaced many of Britain's front line piston engined fighters.

The deHavilland Vampire was first planned in 1941 as an experimental aircraft. Design work began in early 1942 and the prototype made its first flight on 20 September 1943. The RAF decided to develop the Vampire as an interceptor, an order for 120 Vampire Is was placed in May 1944 and the first one flew in April 1945. They began entering service in April 1946 and soon replaced existing British fighters including the Typhoon, Tempest and Mustang.

The Vampire was produced in many versions and 3,268 were made. They served with many air forces, including the RAAF, and some remained in service into the 1970s.

This model represent a Vampire F.1, TG297 of 247 Squadron, RAF, in 1946.

Data: *Single seat fighter. Engine one Rolls Royce Goblin 1 turbojet engine of 12kN each. Wing span 11.58m. Length 9.37m. Maximum take-off weight 3.304kg. Maximum speed 882km/h. Range 1,9605km. Armament four Hispano 20mm cannon. Crew one.*

Amodel 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in November 2016.



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