

Martin Baker MB.3

The Martin Baker MB. 3 was developed in Britain in the early days of World War 2. A company partner, Captain Baker, was killed during a test flight, leading Martin Baker to begin developing new aircrew safety equipment.

The Martin Baker MB.3 was designed using lessons from construction of the earlier MB.1 and MB.2. It had a similar tubular primary fuselage structure and was planned to carry an armament of six 20 mm cannon. Martin Baker was awarded a contract for three MB.3s and the first one made its first flight on 21 August 1942. It was highly manoeuvrable, easy to fly and suitable for production. However, when Captain Baker took the MB.3 for a further flight on 12 September 1942 the engine failed on take off and he was killed in the following crash. Further development of this design went into the more advanced MB.5.

This model represents the sole MB.3 in mid 1942.

Data: prototype fighter. *Engines* Napier Sabre H-24 liquid cooled engine of 1,500kW. *Wing span* 10.77m. *Length* 10.71m. *Maximum take-off weight* 5,484kg. *Maximum speed* 668km/h. *Range* 1,800km. *Proposed armament* six Hispano Mk II 20mm cannon. *Crew* 1.

Dujin 1/72 kit with home made and spares box decals. Completed in May 2017.



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