

Aermacchi MB.339CB

The Aermacchi MB.339 is a trainer and light attack aircraft designed and manufactured in Italy. It retains many of the features of the MB.326 from which it was developed. Eighteen flew with the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

The Aermacchi MB.339 was developed from the earlier MB.326 trainer for the Italian Air Force to replace its MB.326 and Fiat G.91 aircraft. The prototype first flew on 12 August 1976. Over 200 have been produced and they have served with ten air forces.

New Zealand ordered 18 MB.339CB versions, equipped with laser rangefinders and radar detectors, taking delivery of them from March 1991. They were withdrawn from service in 2001 and many are now flying, privately owned, in the United States.

This model represents NZ6461 in service with 14 Squadron, Royal New Zealand Air Force, circa 1998.

Data: trainer and light attack aircraft. *Engines* one Rolls Royce Viper Mk 680 turbojet of 17.8kN thrust. *Wing span* 10.62m. *km/h Length* 16.84m. *Maximum take-off weight* 5,897kg *Maximum speed* 898km/h. *Range* 1,760km. *Armament* up to 1,800kg of weapons on underwing pods.

Supermodel 1/72 kit *Kiwi Models* conversion parts and *Oldmodels* decals completed by Leigh Edmonds in June 2017.



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