

Bloch 152

The Bloch 152 was a fighter developed in France in the late 1930s. Despite its only adequate performance it took part in the Battle of France in 1940 and then served with Axis air forces after the French surrender.

In 1934 the Bloch 150 was entered in the fighter competition that was won by the Morane Saulnier 406. Development resumed in 1937 and the more advanced and much more powerful Bloch 152 made its first flight in December 1938. Only about 25 were ready for service when war was declared, although about 400 were ready by the end of 1939. It was considered outclassed by German fighters but it was a tough aircraft and the most numerous fighter remaining in service when the Armistice that ended the Battle of France was signed. Six groups of them flew with the Vichy air force and captured Blochs also flew with the German and Roumanian air forces.

This model represent No 16 of 6e Esc, GCIII/9, at Salon de Provence in June 1940.

Data: *Engine* one 805kW Gnome-Rhône 14-N25 radial piston engine. *Wing span* 10.55m. *Length* 9.10m. *Maximum take-off weight* 2,800kg. *Maximum speed* 509km/h. *Range* 600km. *Armament* two 20mm cannon and two 7.5mm machine guns. *Crew* one.

RS Models 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in May 2019.



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