

Airbus A.300B4

The Airbus A.300 was the first design of the European construction consortium established to compete with American airliner manufacturers. It introduced wide body services to Australian domestic flights in the 1980s

The Airbus A.300 was the first airliner designed and built by a consortium of European aircraft manufactures. The first A.300 made its first flight on 28 October 1972. Sales were slow initially but when production ended in 2007 a total of 561 had been made.

TAA ordered four A.300s in 1974 and the first one, VH-TAA was delivered in 1981. Due to declining passenger demand VH-TAA had to be leased to other airlines during the 1980s and when it was returned in 1989 TAA had been rebranded as Australian airlines. That airline was sold to Qantas in 1993.

This model represents VH-TAA flying in Qantas livery in 1993.

Data: Wide Body airliner. *Engine* two General Electric CF6-50C turbofan engines of 23,814kg thrust each. *Wing span* 44.84m. *Length* 53.62m. *Maximum take-off weight* 165,00kg. *Average cruising speed* 911km/h. *Range with maximum payload* 5,375km. *Crew:* 3 flight crew. *Payload* up to 345 passengers.

Airfix 1/144 kit with *Hawkeye* decals. Completed in July 2019.



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