

# Bloch 153

**The Bloch 153 was an experimental fighter built in France in 1939 in the hope of improving the performance of the Bloch 152 by giving it an American engine. Development did not proceed beyond the first prototype.**

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, but it was outclassed by German fighters during the Battle of France

In an attempt to improve the performance of the Bloch 152 one was fitted with an American Pratt & Whitney R-1830 Twin Wasp radial engine and redesignated as the Bloch 153. It first flew on 8 April 1939 but crashed a few days later and was damaged beyond repair. No further development took place.

This model represent the sole Bloch 153 in April 1939.

**Data:** *Engine* one 895kW Pratt & Whitney R-1830 Twin Wasp radial piston engine. *Wing span* 10.55m. *Length* 9.10m. *Maximum take-off weight* 2,680kg (approx). *Maximum speed* 515km/h (approx). *Range* 600km. *Armament* two 20mm cannon and two 7.5mm machine guns. *Crew* one.

*RS Models & HR Models 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in July 2019.*



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