

Dewoitine D.520

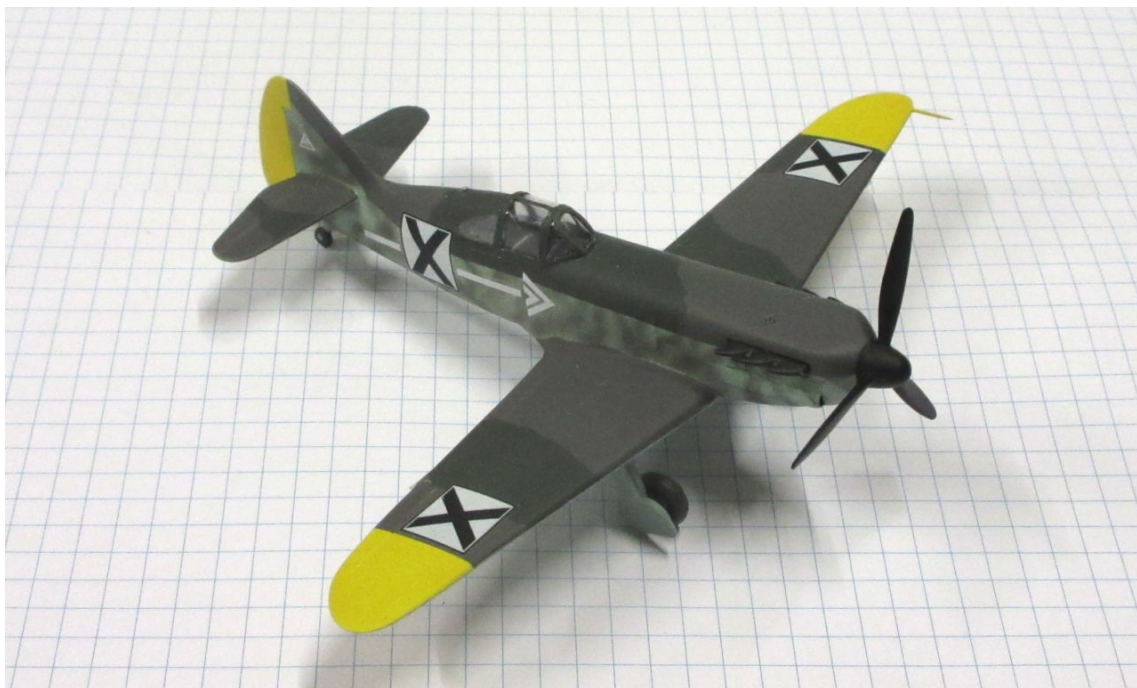
The Dewoitine D.520 was perhaps the best French fighter during the Battle of France. After the Armistice with Germany was signed in June 1940 a large number served with the French Vichy and other Axis Air Forces.

Dewoitine began designing a fighter to meet the French Air force request for a new fighter in 1937. The first Dewoitine 520 flew on 2 October 1938 and the first production machine flew in November 1939. At the end of the Battle of France 437 had been constructed and eventually 905 were made. When Germany invaded the Free Zone of France in November 1942 it captured 246 Dewoitine 520s. They were transferred to the Balkan front and about 100 were delivered to Bulgaria. They were mainly used to defend against attacking American bombers.

This model represents a Dewoitine 520 flying for the Bulgarian Air Force, flown by the Commander of 6 Group and based near Karlovo in 1944.

Data: *Engine* one 697kW Hispano-Suiza 12Y-45 piston engine. *Wing span* 10.20m. *Length* 8.60m. *Maximum take-off weight* 2677kg. *Maximum speed* 534km/h. *Range* 1530km. *Armament* one 20mm cannon and four 7.5mm machine guns. *Crew* one.

RS Models 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in November 2020.



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