

Lockheed 18

The Lockheed 18 was an airliner designed in the United States before World War 2. During the war many were manufactured for military service and a number were converted for civil use when peace returned.

The Lockheed 18 was a lengthened and improved version of the Lockheed 14 pre-war airliner. They began entering airline service in March 1940 but were not successful in competition with the Douglas DC-3. When the United States entered the war they were produced for military service and a total of 625 were eventually manufactured.

After the war a large number were converted for civil use and entered airline service around the world.

This model represents VH-TAY flying for Trans-Australia Airlines. It originally entered service with the Royal Australian Air Force in 1944, going then to the Department of Civil Aviation before being flown by TAA in North Queensland from July 1952 to June 1953.

Data: medium airliner. *Engines* two Wright R-1820-87 nine cylinder radial engines of 890kW each. *Wing span* 19.96m. *Length* 15.19m. *Maximum take-off weight* 9,525kg. *Cruising speed* 320km/h. *Range* 4000km. *Payload* 18 passengers. *Crew* 3.

FRsin 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in August 2021.



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