

# Airbus A.320

The Airbus A.320 is the major version of the A.320 series of narrow body airliners. It has proved very popular and over 10,000 have been manufactured in factories in France, Germany, China and the United States.

Initial planning for the A.320 began in 1977 with the support of the French, British and West German governments to develop an airliner in competition with American manufacturers, Boeing and Douglas. It was launched in March 1984 and the first A.320 made its first flight on 22 February 1987. They began entering service in 1988 and 10,616 of all versions had been manufactured by September 2022. It is offered in two engine types which offer similar performances.

Aircalin was established in 1983 and is the flag carrier of New Caledonia based in Noumea. It operates scheduled services across Oceania, Asia and to Australia.

This model represents F-OJSB flying with Aircalin from Noumea in April 2008.

**Data:** narrow-body medium range airliner. *Engines* two IAE V2500 turbofan engines of 98kN thrust each. *Wing span* 35.8m. *Length* 37.57m. *Maximum take-off weight* 78,000kg. *Cruising speed* 829km/h. *Range* 6,112km. *Typical payload* 195 passengers in typical single class layout. *Flight crew* 2.

Revell 1/144 kit with Draw Decals decals completed by Leigh Edmonds in August 2021.



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