

Heinkel He112B

The He112 was developed due to a 1933 letter to develop a high speed courier aircraft issued by the newly formed Luftwaffe. By Mar 35, prototypes were ready from Arado, Bayerische Flugzeugwerke, Focke-Wulf and Heinkel.

In fly off competition, the He-112 lost out to the BFW aircraft, Heinkel received a contract to produce ten prototypes for further testing. In October 1936, at the request of the RLM, Heinkel undertook a complete redesign resulting in the He112B. The new aircraft was then capable of matching the BFW aircraft, now known as the Messerschmitt Bf109..

With no orders for the aircraft, Heinkel took a prototype on a tour of Europe showing it off at airshows and to various governments. The first order was from the Japanese Navy who ordered 24, however only 12 were delivered. Twelve aircraft were taken over by the Luftwaffe during the Sudetenland crisis. These aircraft were later returned to Heinkel but the Japanese refused to accept them.

Romania would become the largest user of He112s however it was inferior to the locally produced IAR80, so was mostly used for training. .

Data: *Engine:* Junker Jumo liquid cooled, Inverted V12 piston engine of 493 kW. *Wingspan* 11.5m. *Length* 9m. *Maximum take off weight* 2230kg. *Maximum speed* 488 km/h. *Range* 1100 km. *Crew* 1. *Armament* two 7.92mm machine guns and two 20mm cannon.

RS Models 1/72 kit completed by Steve Pulbrook in 2018.



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