

# Messerschmitt Bf110

**During the early days of the transition from Biplanes to monoplanes, twin engine monoplanes were superior in speed, range and firepower to their single engine rivals. The Bf110 was a heavy fighter first flying in 1936.**

Early aircraft suffered from unreliable and low powered engines but by 1938, DB601 engines were fitted improving both speed and range. Bf110s were used in most theatres in WW2, initially as day fighters and escorts for bombers.

The aircraft performed well during the invasion of Poland and France where it could use its superior speed to out climb and outpace rival fighters. When faced with the RAF during the Battle of Britain it suffered badly as it was less manoeuvrable than Spitfires and Hurricanes.

Bf110s were soon moved to other tasks such as reconnaissance, ground attack and night-fighter where it's use continued to the end of the war.

**Data** *Engines* two Daimler-Benz DB601 V-12 liquid cooled piston engine of 820 kW. *Wing span* 16.25m. *Length* 12.07m. *Maximum take-off weight* 6740kg. *Maximum speed* 541km/h. *Range* 850km. *Armament* two 20mm cannon and five 7.92mm machine guns. *Crew* 2 or 3.

*Airfix* 1/72 kit completed by Steve Pulbrook in 2019.



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