

Hawker Hurricane Mk.IIb

The Hawker Hurricane was one of the most important fighters of World War II. It served for the entire war in several roles including bomber interceptor, fighter-bomber and ground support. It was manufactured between 1936 and 1944 and over 14,800 were made.

Development of the Hurricane began in 1934 to replace Britain's existing biplane fighters. The prototype made its first flight on 6 November 1935, production began in 1936 and they began entering service with the Royal Air Force in December 1937. During its production life the Hurricane was produced in four main variants in Britain and Canada and served with almost all allied air forces during the war.

The improved Hurricane Mk.II had an improved Rolls Royce XX engine and introduced new wing mounted 20mm cannons in most versions. They began entering service in September 1940, at the height of the Battle of Britain.

This model represents a Hurricane Mk.IIb flown by 402 Squadron, RCAF, around November 1941.

Data: *Engine* one Rolls-Royce Merlin XX V-12 liquid cooled piston engine of 884kW. *Wing span* 12.19m. *Length* 9.83m. *Maximum take-off weight* 3,951kg. *Maximum speed* 550km/h. *Range* 970km. *Armament* 12 .303 machine guns. *Crew* one.

Airfix 1/72 kit completed by Steve Pulbrook.



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