

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 10,563 of all versions had been manufactured by October 2022.

In Strategic Airlines rebranded itself as Air Australia and entered the budget air fare market in Australia in late 2011. It went into voluntary administration in February 2012

This model represents VH-TQC flying for Air Australia in January 2012.

Data: narrow-body medium range airliner. *Engines* two two CMF56-5 turbofan engines of 130kN 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.

Zvezda 1/144 kit with *Hawkeye* decals completed by Leigh Edmonds in December 2022.



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