

Douglas A-26B

The Douglas A-26 Invader was a powerful light bomber and ground attack aircraft that served United States forces towards the end of World War II. They remained in service until the 1960s, fighting in Korea and Vietnam.

The Douglas A-26 was designed as a follow-up to the Douglas A-20 light bomber which saw extensive service during World War II. The prototype A-26 first flew on 10 July 1942 and had excellent qualities and performance. It had an optional solid nose filled with machine guns of a bombardier's nose for medium altitude precision bombing.

They were first used in the Pacific in June 1944 where tests were poor and in Europe from September 1944 where they were more successful and became popular with their crews. Eventually 2,503 were produced and they went on to serve in the Korean and Vietnam wars.

This model represents A-26B of the 670th BS, 416th BG, USAAF in December 1944.

Data: light bomber and ground attack aircraft. *Engines* two Pratt & Whitney R-2800-71 Double Wasp radial engines of 1500kw each. *Wing span* 21m. *Length* 15m. *Maximum take-off weight* 15,878kg. *Range* 2,600km. *Armament* up to 18 12.7mm machine guns and up to 2710 kg of bombs and rockets. *Crew* 3.

Airfix 1/72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in January 1976.



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