

BAC Lightning F.1A

The Lightning was a high performance supersonic interceptor designed to defend Britain against nuclear armed bombers. They began entering service in 1960 and were phased out between 1974 and June 1988.

The second operational version of the Lightning was the F.1A, a slightly improved version of the F.1 with new Avon 210R engines, improved electronics and the ability to carry a in-flight refuelling probe. A total of 28 built and they began entering service in 1961 and remained in service until they were replaced by more advanced Lightning F.2s and F.3s.

Lightning F.1As began equipping 56 Squadron, RAF, in 1960. During 1963 the squadron formed the RAF's official demonstration team, flying a formation of nine Lightnings

This model represents Lightning F.1A XM182 serving with 56 Squadron at RAF Wattisham in 1965

Data: supersonic all-weather interceptor. *Engines* two Rolls Royce Avon 210R turbojet engines of 6559kg reheat thrust each. *Wing span* 10.62m. *Length* 16.84m. *Maximum take-off weight* 18,182kg. *Maximum speed* 2412Km/h. *Armament* two 30mm Aden cannon and two Firestreak missiles. *Crew* 1.

Trumpeter 1/72 kit by Leigh Edmonds in November 2014.



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