



Vought F-8 Crusader "Last of the Gunfighters" model airplane kit



Fight to Fly Designs

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Summary

Enjoy this fun model of the Vought F-8 Crusader!

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The Aircraft

The F-8 Crusader, introduced in 1957, was a supersonic fighter aircraft renowned for its speed, agility, and combat prowess. Developed by Vought Aircraft for the United States Navy and Marine Corps, the F-8 quickly earned the nickname "The Last of the Gunfighters" due to its primary armament of four 20mm cannons at a time when other jets were transitioning to missile-based weaponry.

Powered by a Pratt & Whitney J57 turbojet engine, the F-8 Crusader could achieve speeds exceeding Mach 1.5 and had a service ceiling of over 50,000 feet. One of its most distinctive features was its variable-incidence wing, which could be raised to improve lift during takeoff and landing on

aircraft carriers, thereby reducing the approach speed and enhancing safety.

The F-8 saw extensive service during the Vietnam War, where it was highly regarded for its dogfighting capabilities and reliability. It achieved an impressive kill ratio against enemy aircraft, solidifying its reputation as a formidable air superiority fighter. Additionally, the Crusader was used for reconnaissance missions, with specialized variants providing valuable intelligence.

Despite being eventually replaced by more advanced aircraft, the F-8 Crusader left a lasting legacy in military aviation history. Its innovative design and combat performance exemplified the technological advancements and tactical doctrines of the jet age, making it a celebrated aircraft among aviators and historians.

The Model

Glue optional. Mine didn't need it, but yours may print differently. Now THIS was a fun one to design and build! This was another example of me trying to capture the unique qualities of a rather unusual aircraft configuration.

You have two fuselage configurations available... one for gear up, one for gear down.

As with the actual aircraft, I made it so you can change the angle of incidence of the main wing. You can fold the wingtips, and deploy the leading and trailing edge flaps. The rudder moves, and even the stabilator can be positioned.

Have fun with this one!

Model files

f-8u-crusader-v4.3mf

f-8u-crusader-v4-generic.3mf



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