

Scale

1/72

WE models

International Mail Order House
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West Germany

West Germany

HISTORY:

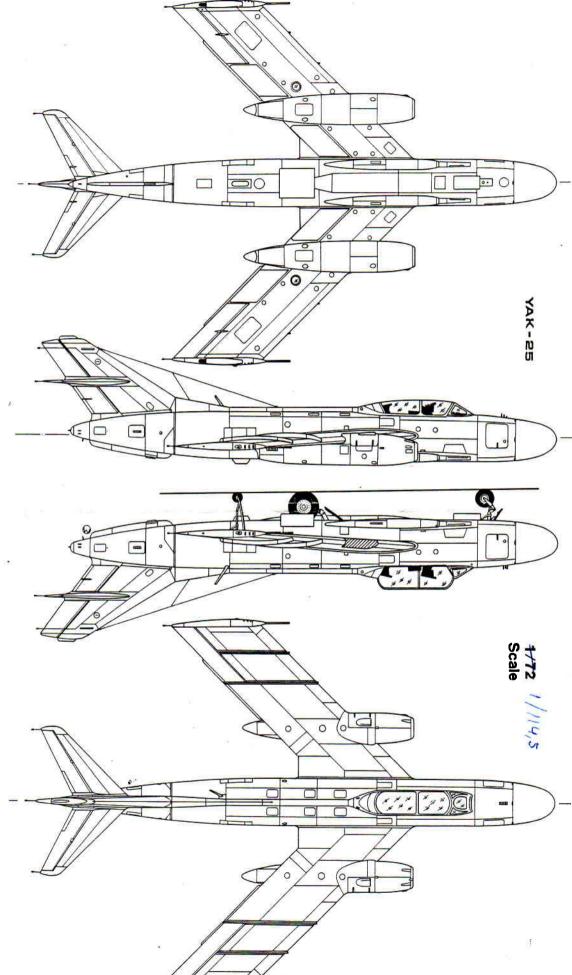
The Yak-25 first flew in 1953 in competition against the Mig I-320(R) and Lavochkin La-200, to be the first Soviet twin engine, multi-seat, all weather fighter to enter service. Whereas the other two designs housed the engines in the fuselage the Yak-25 departed from that Soviet practice and mounted the two AM-5 turbujets in underslung nacelles outboard on the wings. Both the wings and the tail surfaces were swept 45 degrees and they were of constant cord. While the nacelles were small, the fuselage was a large cylinder with a rounded blunt nose housing a radar based on a US WM-II design. The two crew members sat in tandem under a single sliding canopy just forward of the leading edge of the mid-mounted wing. Directly below the wing was a dual main landing gear which retracted into the belly, balance being provided by the single nose wheel and two outriggers mounted at each wingtip which were fully retractable. Amament consisted of two N-37 30 mm canons and a central pack in the belly which housed 55 mm unguided rockets.

The Yak-25 was seen in public for the first time in 1955 during the Tushino Air Display and was assigned the NATO code name Flashilght. These Flightlight-A models had their engines replaced in 1957 by Tumansky RD-9 turbojets which provided 5,730 lbs thrust or 7,940 lbs if fitted with afterburner. In 1956 a new version with the second crew member moved into a glazed nose received the designation Flashlight-B. It also had extended leading edges at the wing roots, longer engine nacelles for afterburners and wing-tip pittots. Another version, the Flashlight-C was also seen in 1956, having the refinements of the B model but retaining the radar nose of the A. The B model was an unarmed tactical reconnaissance version.

Other refinements such as extended wing-tips and armament and radar variations were seen on a few aircraft, but the A model remainded the most prolific. One interesting version is sometimes referred to as the Yak-Z5RD. It is known by its NATO name of Mandrake to be the Soviets reply to the Lockheed U-2. It appears to be a Flashlight fuselage with a single seat and a solid less bulbous nose. While the tail surfaces remain swept, the wing is a ling tapered affair which droops considerablely like the U-2's. While the swept wing flashlights outriggers are mounted on the leading edge and retract back, those on the Mandrake are mouted on the trailing edge and retract forward. The engines used on the Mandrake are believed to be Tumanskii R-11's.

The Illustrated History of Fighters, B.Gunston Russian Aircraft Since 1940, J.Alexander The World's Military Aircraft, B.Gunston

Over 1,000 Yak-25's were built and served the Soviets well into the sixties as front line alcoraft. Their design led to the much advanced Yak-28 series which we know in NATO as Brewer and Firebar's. These incorporate entirely new airframes and wings on the same general layout, with the exception that the wing is moved up to the shoulder position and the nose gear is replaced by a second double main gear. Unlike most other Soviet front line aircraft the Yak-25 series only served with the Soviet Air force and was not given to any of the block countries.



Make sure strouts are used in the correct places, numbers 12 and 13 go from rear brace on top of the floats to the under side of the wings. Continually cross check with three view drawing for correct angles.