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Russia's Warplanes. Volume 1: Russia-made Military Aircraft And Helicopters Today: Volume 1



Synopsis

Russia's Warplanes is set to become the standard reference work on the subject. Written by an acknowledged expert in the field, this will serve as an exhaustive directory of the latest products of Russia's military aviation industry. As well as outlining aircraft that currently equip the various Russian air arms, the first of two volumes also takes into account aircraft developed for and fielded by foreign states in the post-Soviet era. Piotr Butowski provides authoritative technical descriptions for each military aircraft – and every significant sub-variant – currently available from Russia's aerospace industry, or otherwise in large-scale service. With the level of accuracy and insight familiar to Harpia's regular readers, each aircraft profile also includes specifications, and details of operators, upgrades, avionics and weapons. The first of two volumes on the subject presents in-depth coverage of tactical combat aircraft, trainers, Army Aviation helicopters, reconnaissance and surveillance aircraft, airborne command posts and relay aircraft. As such, the breadth of this work extends from the latest multi-role fighters developed by Mikoyan and Sukhoi, via successive generations of combat rotorcraft, to airborne early warning and electronic intelligence-gatherers. As well as familiar types such as the Su-30MK family of fighters and Mi-24/35 assault helicopters that have proven so successful on the export market, Russia's Warplanes extends its reach to the various new and upgraded types that are beginning to populate Russia's rejuvenated air arms, including those still under development, including the enigmatic – fifth-generation – Sukhoi T-50 fighter. Additional assets, including long-range bombers, maritime aircraft, strategic transport and tanker aircraft, theater and special purpose transports, and air-launched weapons will be dealt with in Volume 2. Supplemented by many photographs, some of which from exclusive sources, as well as specially created maps and diagrams, Volume 1 of Russia's Warplanes launches the most comprehensive study of the fixed- and rotary wing aircraft types – manned and unmanned – that can currently be found in Russian service or which are being built or offered for export.

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Customer Reviews

Informative technical and development detail of so many aircraft, and equally well illustrated throughout with some high quality photos, including many from inside the cockpit as well.

Accompanied by helpful maps and diagrams this is a comprehensive look at the subject, and one that holds plenty of promise for the second volume when it comes. (Military Modeling) This reliable reference wonderfully recaps current Russian warplanes. I, for one, eagerly await its sequel. If your library affords space for just one reference on modern Russian military aircraft, make it this one.

Roundly recommended! (Cybermodeler) Piotr Butowski is a well known expert who has outstanding connections within the Russian aerospace industry... presents a complete overview of Russia's military aircraft inventory, encompassing tactical combat aircraft, attack and transport helicopters, reconnaissance, and surveillance aircraft and special mission aircraft. Divided into four chapters, the book details the history and status of current Russian Aircraft as well as the development of their prospective generations. Despite the fact Russia's currently declining economy will impact the sustainment of such ambitious military modernization efforts, with some of the described projects being canceled or delayed, the value of this book cannot be disputed. It is an excellent overview of all current and future likely types of Russian military aircraft including their features. The book is not only directed at military analysts and subject matter experts but is valuable for anyone interested in Russian Airplanes. (Journal of the Joint Air Power Competence Centre (JAPCC))

Piotr Butowski is an aviation journalist, writer and photographer specialising in the aviation of Russia, especially the themes of aerospace industry and technology. Since 1978 he has published several thousand articles in aviation magazines all over the world, mainly in Poland, the UK, France and Germany, but also in Brazil, the US, Japan, Spain, Italy, Russia and other countries. He is author of around 15 books on Russian aviation published in Poland, the US, the UK and Hong Kong between 1985 and 1996. After a break of almost 20 years, he wrote the first volume of the Russia's Warplanes series last autumn.

Incredibly great details and backgrounds for currently used Russian military aircraft.

Tremendous amount of info on Russian military fighter planes, SU 34 strike bomber and Attack helicopters. Worthy the money. Great reference material.

Good pic of the jewvRussian fighters and other mil equipment.. however too few to really make the book worth....I prefer to see different illustration like weapon config. Camo pattern...different variants and walk around.... Again too few pix

A 5 star book indeed. Good reading material.

As an alternative to Yefim Gordon , Andrei Fomin ,Alexander Mladenov and Piotr Butowski are three authors with their own independent access to authentic information on Russian warplanes . Incidentally ,Piotr Butowski was to come out with a 2 volume Encyclopedia on Russian Aviation Directory by the defunct Aerospace Publishing in the late 90's (which I was tracking) - so this 2 volume series is a welcome offering as there are few english language books published by him.Harpia Publishing is renowned for its original research and content on exotic and new esoteric subjects and the treatment of this popular subject is done in their inimical style - a 250 + Pp 2 volume encyclopedia on Russian warplanes - which should serve as the definitive guide on this subject for the near future.This latest title covers Russian combat planes in current Russian service (thus newer variants /upgrades of Mig 21/23/27 etc lose out) , along with all the choppers , electronic/special purpose/awacs with the latest technical details .There is a wealth of information with a chapter given to each aircraft with superb quality of paper/printing and photographs and details on all the warplanes , example the Su-30 MKI .The details on the electronic and AWACS aircraft are also a revelation,as are the pictures .These cover a brief introduction, history,engine/power plant ,avionics,radar . upgrades ,variants , future plans for the aircraft and details on countries where exported or planned in the future,text on weapons in deployment ,units ,Russian designations etcThere is also a chapter on planned future warplanes that will interest the avid enthusiast - however Butowski throws a caution in his preface - many of these "new" projects may not see the light of day due to the prevailing economic conditions.The author ,like Yefim Gordon in all his books (and there the comparison ends) refrains from sharing any bibliography ,except that he consults only one Russian magazine (Take-Off) and the rest are all through his network of contacts.As a discerning reader , a few areas where i feel Harpia can work in the next

Volume II :1. There is no dearth of information on the weapons with lots of text - and perhaps a small chapter on air weapons (like other volumes) will be included in the next vol 2- what would have helped embellish the text esp on the combat aircraft are a few diagrams on the weapons configuration/sensors of aircraft for example diagrams showing the typical weapons configuration on maybe an SU-34 and the depiction on the various pylons .Few observations :1.Pp 13 to 104 covers the Tactical Combat aircraft - while there are many colour pictures - no diagrams of any kind2.The next section on Attack and transport choppers Pp 105 - 166 has a few informative diagrams done by Butowski himselfPp 112 has a diagram on sensors and weapons of the KA-52 ; and Pp 157 on Mi 28 and Pp 188 on the Ka-35 - Butowski could have furnished this for the Tactical aircraft section as well.3..Looking at many of the different types and their variants - a few diagrams could help illustrate the differences and would have been well appreciated On Pp 182 there are profile diagrams showing diff versions of the IL-20 and Il - 22 but none for any of the other aircraft type.Unable to classify this as a miss or are the variant differences on the IL-20/22 significant enough to warrant this and not for the other types.Perhaps this is all due to size limitations - though there are a few empty/blank sections which could have been utilised with some charts etcNevertheless this is a stunning piece of work with excellent photographs and a MUST BUY on this exotic subject and possibly Butowski's work may spawn some "plagiarization" which can at best can compliment and not replace this original work for its stunning wealth of information.

Awesomely thorough and chocked full of so much info...

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