

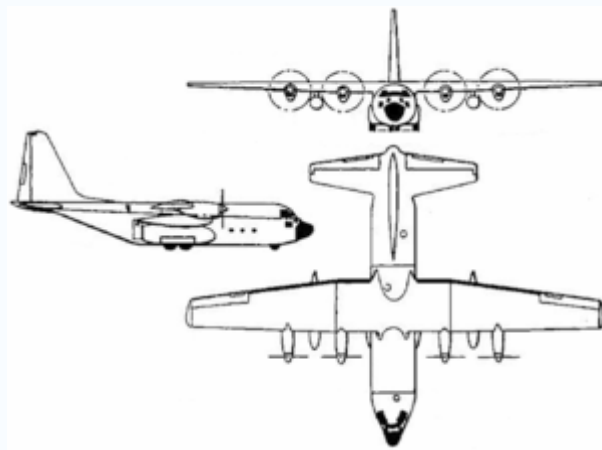


C-130 Hercules

The **Lockheed C-130 Hercules** is a four-engine [turboprop cargo aircraft](#) and the main [tactical airlifter](#) for military forces worldwide. Over 40 models and variants of the Hercules serve with more than 50 nations. By December 2006, the C-130 will become the third aircraft (after the [B-52 Stratofortress](#) in January, 2005 and the [English Electric Canberra](#) in May, 2001) to mark 50 years of continuous use with its original primary customer (in this case, the United States Air Force).



Capable of [short takeoffs and landings](#) from unprepared [runways](#), the C-130 was designed as a troop transport and cargo aircraft. The versatile airframe has found uses in a variety of other roles, including [airborne assault](#), as a [gunship](#), [search and rescue](#), weather reconnaissance, [aerial refuelling](#), [aerial firefighting](#) and [MEDEVAC](#). The Hercules family has the longest continuous production run of any military aircraft in history. During more than 50 years of service, the family has participated in military, civilian and [humanitarian aid](#) operations.



General characteristics

- **Crew:** 4-6: at least 2 pilots, 1 flight engineer, and 1 loadmaster; additional loadmaster and navigator are usually part of the crew
- **Capacity:**

- 92 passengers *or*
- 64 airborne troops *or*
- 74 litter patients with 2 medical personnel
- **Payload:** 45,000 lb (20,000 kg) including 2-3 [Humvees](#) or an [M113](#) Armoured personnel carrier
- **Length:** 97 ft 9 in (29.8 m)
- **[Wingspan:](#)** 132 ft 7 in (40.4 m)
- **Height:** 38 ft 3 in (11.6 m)
- **Wing area:** 1,745 ft² (162.1 m²)
- **Empty weight:** 83,000 lb (38,000 kg)
- **Useful load:** 72,000 lb (33,000 kg)
- **[Max takeoff weight:](#)** 155,000 lb (70,300 kg)
- **Powerplant:** 4× [Allison T56 -A-15 turboprops](#), 4,300 shp (3,210 kW) each

Performance

- **[Maximum speed:](#)** 329 knots (379 mph, 610 km/h)
- **[Cruise speed:](#)** 292 knots (336 mph, 540 km/h)
- **[Range:](#)** 2,050 nm (2,360 mi, 3,800 km)
- **[Service ceiling:](#)** 33,000 ft (10,000 m)

Information about this equipment provided by: www.af.mil

For further information visit: www.MinnesotaNationalGuard.org