



F-16 Fighting Falcon

The F-16 Fighting Falcon is a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft, highly maneuverable, and proven in air-to-air combat and air-to-surface attack. It provides a relatively high-performance, low-cost performance weapon system for the United States and allied nations.

Entered Air Force Service

1976

Features

In an air combat role, the F-16's maneuverability and combat radius (distance it can fly to enter air combat, stay, fight, and return) exceeded that of all potential threat fighter aircraft. It can locate targets in all weather conditions and detect low-flying aircraft in radar ground clutter. In an air-to-surface role, the F-16 can fly more than 500 miles (860 kilometers), deliver its weapons with superior accuracy, defend itself against enemy aircraft, and return to its starting point.



General Characteristics

Primary Function:	Multirole fighter
Power Plant:	F-16C/D: one Pratt and Whitney F100-PW-200/220/229 or General Electric F110-GE-100/129
Thrust:	F-16C/D, 27,000 lbs
Length:	49 feet, 5 inches (14.8 meters)
Height:	16 feet (4.8 meters)
Wingspan:	32 feet, 8 inches (9.8 meters)
Speed:	1,500 mph (Mach 2 at altitude)
Ceiling:	Above 50,000 feet (15 kilometers)
Maximum Takeoff Weight:	37,500 pounds (16,875 kilograms)
Range:	More than 2,000 miles ferry range (1,740 nautical miles)
Armament:	One M-61A1 20mm multibarrel cannon with 500 rounds, external stations can carry up to six air-to-air missiles, conventional munitions, and electronic countermeasure pods
Unit Cost:	F-16A/B, \$14.6 million (fy98 constant dollars) F-16C/D, \$18.8 million (fy98 constant dollars)
Crew:	F-16C, one; F-16D, one or two
Inventory (F-16C/D):	1,280 (October 2009)

Information courtesy AF.mil

In February 2010, the 148th Fighter Wing announced that it would receive upgraded Block 50 F-16 aircraft between April and May from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. The 148th will be the first Air National Guard Wing to convert Block 50 aircraft from the Active Duty Air Force.

Manufacturer

Lockheed Martin Corp.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Minnesota National Guard Public Affairs at public.affairs@mn.ngb.army.mil or go to www.MinnesotaNationalGuard.org/press_room/fact_sheets/military_equipment.php for a list of equipment used by the Minnesota National Guard.