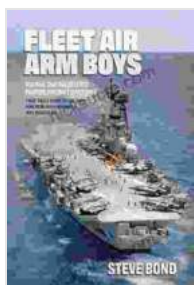


# The Evolution of Air Defence Fighter Aircraft Since 1945

Air defence fighter aircraft have played a vital role in protecting airspace and deterring potential threats since the end of World War II. Over the past seven decades, these aircraft have undergone a remarkable evolution, driven by advances in technology and the ever-changing nature of air combat.



## Fleet Air Arm Boys: Air Defence Fighter Aircraft Since 1945: True Tales from Royal Navy Aircrew, Maintainers and Handlers

by Steve Bond

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 34588 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 593 pages  
Lending : Enabled



The first generation of air defence fighter aircraft emerged in the immediate aftermath of World War II. These aircraft, such as the North American P-82 Twin Mustang and the Soviet MiG-15, were designed to intercept and destroy enemy bombers. They were typically armed with cannons and

rockets, and relied on their speed and maneuverability to outmaneuver their opponents.

The second generation of air defence fighter aircraft appeared in the early 1960s. These aircraft, such as the Lockheed F-104 Starfighter and the MiG-21, were designed to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft at high altitudes. They were armed with air-to-air missiles, and their advanced radar systems allowed them to detect and track targets at long ranges.

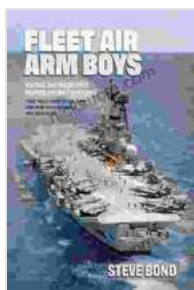
The third generation of air defence fighter aircraft emerged in the late 1960s. These aircraft, such as the McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II and the Sukhoi Su-15, were designed to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft at all altitudes. They were armed with a variety of air-to-air missiles, and their advanced avionics systems allowed them to operate in all-weather conditions.

The fourth generation of air defence fighter aircraft emerged in the late 1970s. These aircraft, such as the General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon and the MiG-29, were designed to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft in beyond-visual-range combat. They were armed with advanced air-to-air missiles, and their powerful radars allowed them to detect and track targets at long ranges.

The fifth generation of air defence fighter aircraft emerged in the early 2000s. These aircraft, such as the Lockheed Martin F-22 Raptor and the Sukhoi Su-57, are designed to be stealthy, agile, and powerful. They are armed with a variety of air-to-air missiles, and their advanced avionics systems allow them to operate in all-weather conditions.

The sixth generation of air defence fighter aircraft is currently under development. These aircraft are expected to be even more stealthy, agile, and powerful than their predecessors. They are likely to be armed with a variety of new weapons, including directed-energy weapons and hypersonic missiles.

The evolution of air defence fighter aircraft has been driven by the ever-changing nature of air combat. As new threats emerge, new technologies are developed to counter them. The future of air defence fighter aircraft is likely to be characterized by continued innovation and technological advancement.



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