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Flight: 100 Greatest Aircraft



Synopsis

A comprehensive look at the world's great aircraft from the experts at Flying magazine, featuring spectacular full-color photographs, fascinating and informative text, and detailed specifications that will delight die-hard data fans. Of all humanity's dazzling innovations, perhaps none capture our imaginations or fuel our inventive spirits as much as flight. In our quest to soar higher, faster, and farther, we've dreamed up airborne wonders that are a sight to behold—like the supersonic F-22 Raptor, stealthily soaring above the clouds, or the Boeing-Stearman PT-17 Biplane, the beautiful starter model that helped a generation earn their wings. That's not even to mention the deluxe Concorde—the first passenger jet to cruise at the speed of sound. These iconic aircraft—and 97 more stunning feats of aeronautical engineering—make up the world's most groundbreaking contributions to flight, all curated and collected here by the experts at Flying magazine. In *Flight: 100 Greatest Aircraft*, there's something for every aviation aficionado—from brazen stunt planes to far-from-pedestrian commercial jets, from military marvels to spacecraft that reached dazzling new heights. With its spectacular full-color photographs, fascinating and informative text, and detailed specifications section that will delight die-hard data fans, *Flight* is the essential book for pilots and plane-lovers everywhere.

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Customer Reviews

There have been a number of 'World's Greatest Aircraft' books published over the years. Mark Phelps' *FLIGHT, 100 GREATEST AIRCRAFT* is the latest entry in the field. A 2013 Weldon Owen

release, it's a 240-page photo-guide to iconic aircraft of the past century. Originally developed online by the staff of FLYING magazine, the material was tweaked with some wonderful color photographs, expanded a/c descriptions, etc. The aircraft are presented in random order. Many of the 'usual suspects' are featured - the Wright Flyer, DC-3, P-51, Beechcraft Bonanza, Ju-52, B-17, Spitfire, Piper Cub, Sopwith Camel, BAe Harrier, Lockheed Constellation, B-24, PT-17, F-86, Yak-9, Fokker Triplane, Aeronca Champ, Learjet, Bell X-1, Pilatus PC-12, Me 262, Spirit of St. Louis, F-15, C-130, AT-6, Mitsubishi Zero, MiG-15, Beechcraft Staggerwing, Dassault Falcon, Gossamer Albatross, An-225 Mriya, De Havilland Beaver and JN-4 Jenny along with such types as the Diamond DA40 and Piaggio Avanti. Curiously, the book also includes the Robinson R22, AH-64 Apache, General Atomics Predator Drone, Space Shuttle and the Hindenburg; all of which kind of stretch the definition of "aircraft!" Most of the birds get a two-page spread with a concise write-up and one-three pix, most of which are in color. Two-page overviews on 'Aircraft Basics,' 'Engine Innovations,' 'Heroes of Aviation,' etc. are interspersed throughout the book. The final section of FLIGHT, 100 GREATEST AIRCRAFT is given over to a 22-page 'Specifications' section. As coffee table books go, Phelps' book is certainly a winner, filled with aviation eye-candy images guaranteed to please aviation enthusiasts of all ages. Recommended.

The owner of the Lockheed Electra Jr. featured on the cover had contacted me for more information about the picture, and at the time I didn't even know it had been licensed for use in the book. I'm a aviation buff, and love photographing aircraft whenever I get the chance. This book a great addition to any coffee table and I agree with most of their selections. There is some really great photography in this book and nice writeups for each one, even though in some cases the information can seem a bit brief, especially for iconic aircraft like the P-51 Mustang. Overall it's well worth the money and would make a great gift to any aviation lover.

Like every airplane ever made this is a lovely, lovely tribute. One may disagree with some of the choices but not with the exquisite way the choices are presented. My only quibble is that this otherwise superb book lacks a data page stating basic things like date and place of publication and most important to me, a collector, whether it is a first edition. This may mean nothing to most folks, like to magazine readers, and the editors of this book work for Flying Magazine. But it is important to me. As much as I love airplanes, I also love books. I am surprised Flying's editors, apparently do not share that love. That is my quibble. I would love to have a discussion with them about their choices. There are a number of important aircraft missing from this list. But the book is a thing of beauty. I am

so glad to have it in my library.

Really nice photos. Clear. Colorful. Complete descriptions of each airplane. Book has heavy paper, strong binding, etc. I really enjoy reading the facts about the aircraft, since you might not be that familiar with each one. Any time someone compiles a "greatest" or "100 best" list, there will be some opinion involved. But, I knew that going in, so was not dissatisfied. My own "top 100" list might have been slightly different, but these are definitely some of the best aircraft ever. I recommend it.

Bought this for a friend as a gift who was a commercial pilot and now flies his own aircraft. He was thrilled and said he cleaned his glass table and displayed it right after receiving it. Since then he has read the book and loves it.

This book is one of my favorites. It's not long to read, even though this is a big book. The pictures mostly take up the space. If you're interested in jets and airplanes like I am this book will only take you deeper in the subject. I recommend this book to anyone interested in air travel. It's well worth the price. Even if you don't read a word the photography is priceless.

Very nice, large coffee table illustrated book showcasing, as the title says, what the author considers to be the 100 greatest aircraft, not necessarily airplanes, ever built. Beautiful color photos. Nice, concise overviews of the planes featured, too. From balloons, the Wright brothers and all the way up to the present day. For a guy like me, who loves planes but doesn't have the financial wherewithal to be participate in aviation, this book is stupendous. I am sure for those who are fortunate enough to take to the skies this book would also be illuminating. Well worth your time. Great book.

I'm an avid airplanes fan, and this book has beautiful pictures I have never seen before. You are asking for trouble when you decide to make a top list about anything, but in my opinion these people did an excellent job in their selection.

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