

BAe Hawk new generation mk.165**Royal Saudi Arabia air force**

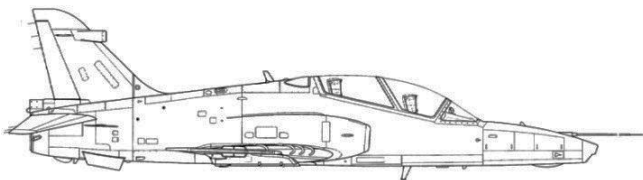
For Kinetic Hawk kit #3206 or same Revell #03852 (1/32)

HISTORY

The British Hawker Siddeley company developed in the late 1960s and early 1970s a small advanced jet trainer powered by a single Rolls Royce Turbomeca Adour turbofan engine. It was called the Hawk. The crew is an instructor and student pilot to be trained. First flight was in 1974 and it could fly MACH 0.88 in level flight. An 30mm ADEN gun pod could be carried below the fuselage as well as rocket pods. A few variants of the first generation Hawk were developed and the company became part of BAe (British Aerospace). The Hawk replaced the Folland Gnat and Hunter trainer in the Royal Air Force and also India purchased the type manufactured in license by Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL). From 1983 some RAF Hawk T1 were capable to fire 2 AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles designated as T1A. The RAF Red Arrows aerobatic display team also flies the Hawk. Hawks mk.50 series were also exported to e.g. Finland, Indonesia, Kenya, Saudi Arabia (see below).

Even a single seat attack Hawk mk.200 was in the 1980s developed and end 1980s the T-45 Goshawk was a drastically changed US NAVY trainer Hawk variant.

The Hawk mk.60 series were exported to UAE Abu Dhabi, UAE Dubai, Kuwait, South Korea, Switzerland, Zimbabwe and again Saudi Arabia. Later variant changes were more powerful engine with fatter rear fuselage, thicker windscreen and updated systems.



The BAe Hawk new generation was developed mid 1980s as the Hawk mk.100 series with longer nose with infra-red camera and redesigned wing, HOTAS and warning and weapon systems. Hawk mk.102 was for UAE Abu Dhabi, mk.103 for the RAF, mk.108 for Malaysia, mk.109 for Indonesia and the mk.115 as CT-115 for Canada. Mk.127 for Australia and mk.129 for Bahrain. India also ordered several new generation Hawks. Fitted with modern cockpits, Adour 951 and systems the latest Hawk generation from 2012 are the mk.128 T2 for the RAF, mk.132 for India, mk.165 for Saudi Arabia, mk.166 for Oman and mk.167 for Qatar.

Royal Saudi Arabia air force (RSAF)

Saudi Arabia ordered first generation Hawks and from 1988 obtained some 35 Hawk mk.65 and. They operated from mostly Dhahran and from 2000 from Tabuk. From 1997 some 21 improved mk.65A were acquired.

Of the later generation from 2015 some 46 Hawk mk.165 were acquired. They are based at Tabuk / King Faisal air base. RSAF No. 21, 37 and 79 squadrons fly the type.

DECAL APPLICATION

The decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so each decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior decal preparation is needed.

Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two sections. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white surfaces, the white section is optional).

After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss, matt or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect all the decals.

MODEL KITS

In 1/32 scale Kinetic released in 2013 kit ##3206. Revell from Germany released in 2021 the same kit with different decals as #03852 .

COLOUR SCHEME

The Saudi Hawk mk.165 has a low visibility camouflaged pattern:

Basic colour is *probably* Light Compass Ghost Gray FS36375 (including the lower surfaces) with Gray Blue patches FS35237 on fuselage, on upper wing and on upper stabilizers.

The central canopy frame is off white. Several aircraft codes are provided as are squadron badges (although not seen on aircraft).

REFERENCES:

On internet it is very easy to find photos by searching...

BAe Hawk mk.165 + Saudi Arabia air force

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Decals of the Saudi Hawks aerobatic team are also available in various scales as AIPD-8

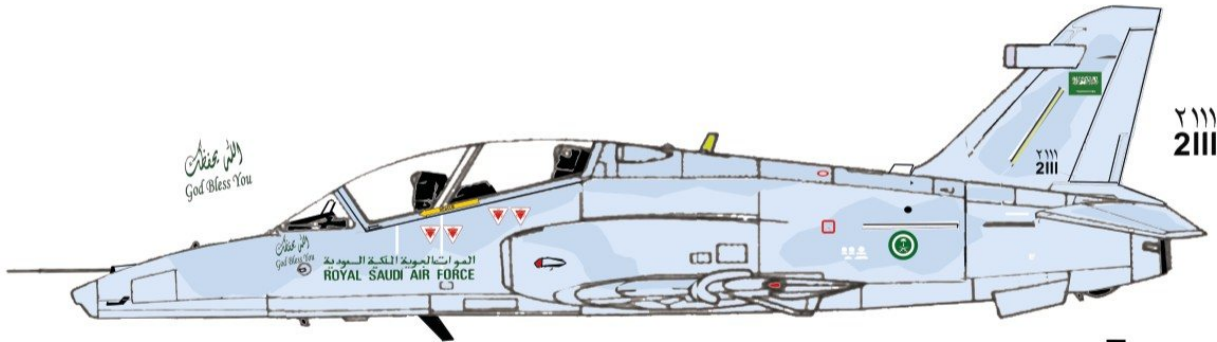
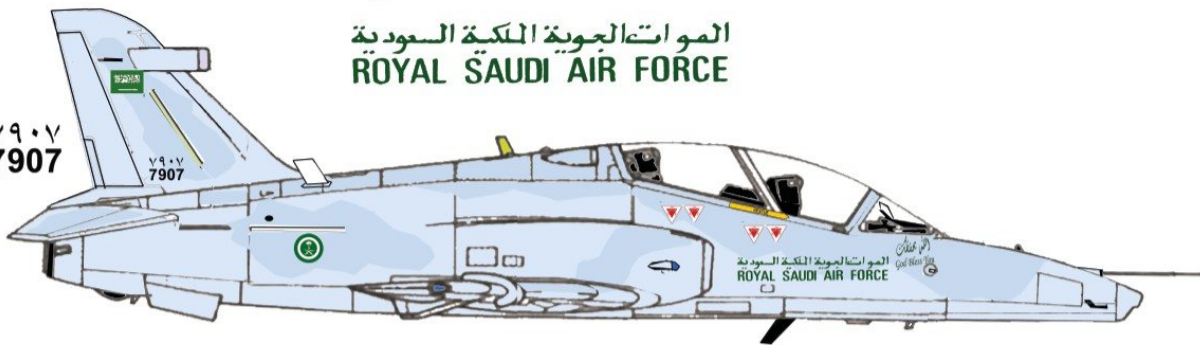
For the early generation Hawk mk.65/ 65A decals are available as AIPD-17

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ROYAL SAUDI AIR FORCE

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mk.165

Hawk mk.165, c/n ST019/1519, coded "2110", no.21 squadron

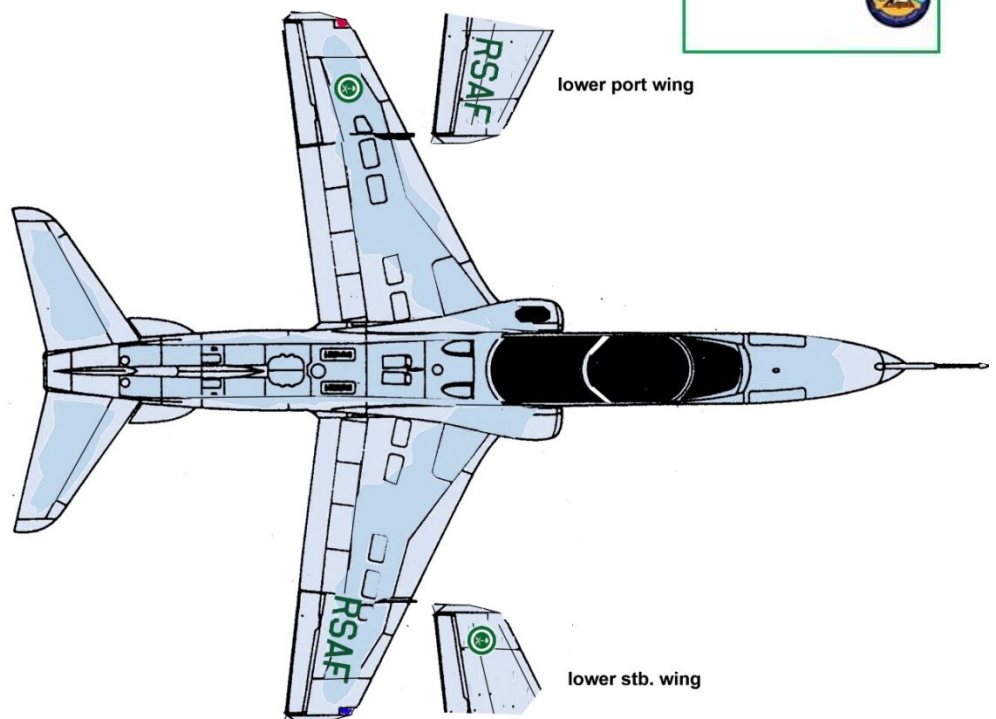
Hawk mk.165, c/n, ST020/1520, coded "2111", no.21 squadron

Hawk mk.165, c/n ST016/1516, coded "7907", no.79 squadron

Add servicing maintenance stencils from the sheet and kit decals.

As noted... many decals have a white underlying decal.

Squadron badges were not (yet) seen on aircraft but those of RSAF no.21 and no.79 squadrons are on the sheet.



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