

# Royal Australian Air Force – F/A-18F Super Hornet

Information sourced from <https://www.airforce.gov.au/technology/aircraft/strike/fa-18f-super-hornet>

Air Force has 24 F/A-18F Super Hornets, which ensure that Australia's air combat capability edge is maintained until the full introduction of the F-35A Lightning II.

The F/A-18F Super Hornets are based at Number 1 Squadron at RAAF Base Amberley.



After achieving Final Operational Capability in

December 2012, they have participated in a range of exercises and operations, including:

- Exercise Pitch Black in the Northern Territory;
- Exercise Bersama Shield on the Malaysian Peninsula; and
- Operation OKRA in the Middle East.

## About the Aircraft

The F/A-18F Super Hornet is larger than the F/A-18A/B Hornet. The aircraft's increased wing area allows it to carry more stores (mounted devices) on its additional hardpoints.

The twin seat F/A-18F Super Hornet can undertake:

- air interception;
- air combat;
- close air support of ground troops; and
- interception of enemy supply lines including shipping.

<b>Manufacturer</b>	Boeing
<b>Role</b>	Multi-role fighter
<b>Crew</b>	Pilot, Air Combat Officer
<b>Engine</b>	Two F414-GE-400 turbofans (9,800 kg thrust each)
<b>Airframe</b>	Length: 18.3 m, height: 4.9 m
<b>Wingspan</b>	13.6 m
<b>Weight</b>	13,387 kg basic, 29,900 kg maximum take-off weight
<b>Speed</b>	1,960 km/h (Mach 1.6)

<b>Range</b>	2,700 km
<b>Ceiling</b>	50,000 feet
<b>Capacity</b>	Mission computers Heads-up Displays Radar and Infrared Sensing and Targeting Systems Electronic Warfare and Infra-Red Self Protection Systems
<b>Weapons</b>	AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) AIM-9X "Sidewinder" Short Range Air-to-Air Missile Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) and Laser JDAM Conventional and Laser-Guided Bombs AGM-154 Joint Stand-Off Weapon (JSOW) AGM-84 Harpoon Anti-Ship Missile M61 Nose-Mounted 20mm Cannon