F-35 Lightning II
The Most Advanced Fighter Jet in the World

The F-35 strengthens national security, enhances global partnerships and powers economic growth. It is the most lethal, survivable and connected fighter aircraft in the world, giving pilots an advantage against any adversary and enabling them to execute their mission and come home safe.

The F-35 family includes three variants — all single-seat jets. The F-35A conventional takeoff and landing variant, the F-35B short takeoff/vertical landing variant, and the F-35C carrier variant.

All three variants have similar performance characteristics and the exact same advanced avionics. The variation between models allows military forces to achieve service-specific mission capability, while still taking advantage of the economies of scale that result from the parts and processes that are common to all three variants.

The Global F-35 Enterprise

The F-35 is developed, produced, and supported by an international team of government allies and aerospace industry leaders. The F-35 Program is managed by the Pentagon’s F-35 Joint Program Office, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy are all procuring and operating F-35s. The program was founded by 9 international partners — the U.S., United Kingdom, Italy, Netherlands, Turkey, Australia, Norway, Denmark and Canada. Four Foreign Military Sales customers are also procuring and operating the F-35 — Israel, Japan, South Korea and Belgium.

Lockheed Martin serves as the prime contractor with a global supply chain of more than 1,600 companies based in the United States and in every nation acquiring the F-35.

F-35A
Designed to operate from conventional runways and is the most common variant. The United States Air Force and the majority of F-35 international allied customers operate the F-35A.

F-35B
Can land vertically like a helicopter and take-off in very short distances. This allows it to operate from austere, short-field bases and a range of air-capable ships. The F-35B is operated by the United States Marine Corps, the United Kingdom, and the Italian Air Force.

F-35C
The Navy’s first stealth fighter and the world’s only 5th Generation, long-range stealth strike fighter designed and built explicitly for aircraft carrier operations. The F-35C is operated exclusively by the Department of the Navy.
Transformational Capability

As adversaries advance and legacy aircraft age, the 5th Generation F-35 is critical to maintaining air dominance now and for decades to come. 5th Generation capability is defined by the combination of Very Low Observable stealth, advanced sensors, information fusion and network connectivity – all packaged within in a supersonic, long range, highly maneuverable fighter.

With this advanced technology, the F-35 is a multi-role fighter capable of successfully executing any and all mission, including new missions not traditionally fulfilled by legacy fighters. More than a fighter jet, the F-35’s ability to collect, analyze and share data, is a powerful force multiplier that enhances all airborne, surface and ground-based assets in the battlespace.
Sustaining the World’s Most Advanced Fighter

The F-35 enterprise partners to ensure the world’s most advanced fighter is mission ready and affordable to sustain throughout its lifecycle.

The F-35 Global Sustainment Solution is driven by strong government and industry partnerships in the U.S. and across the globe. This includes pilot and maintainer training; base operations; regional warehouses, repair and upgrade facilities; 24/7 sustainment services; supply chain management and the Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS).

Delivering more readiness at less cost, F-35 sustainment will be characterized by high reliability, predictive health monitoring, a high velocity supply chain and condition-based maintenance.

The global enterprise is on track to deliver 80 percent mission capable rates and $25,000 Cost Per Flying Hour by 2025 — 5th generation performance at 4th generation cost.

Learn more at lockheedmartin.com/f-35
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