



CONFIDENTIAL

MARCH, 1943  
(CHART NO. II)

DEVELOPMENT OF SUPERMARINE SPITFIRE FIGHTER  
1938 - 1943

PREPARED BY  
AIR INFORMATION BRANCH  
BUREAU OF AERONAUTICS  
NAVY DEPARTMENT

MODEL	ENGINE	MAX. H.P. ALT.	SPAN	LENGTH	GROSS AREA SQ. FT.	WEIGHT LBS.	WING LOAD- ING LB. SQ. FT.	POWER LOAD- ING LB. H.P.	ARMAMENT	SPEED SEA LEVEL M. P. H.	MAX. SPEED M. P. H. ORIT. ALT.	CRUIS- ING SPEED M. P. H. ALT.	RATE OF CLIMB FT./MIN. ALT.	TIME OF CLIMB MIN. ALT.	SER- VICE CEIL- ING	CRUIS- ING RANGE MILES	CRUIS- ING ENDUR- ANCE HOURS	REMARKS
SPITFIRE F VI SPEC. F VI/PI	MERLIN 47	1210 21500	40'2"	30'2"	248.5	6844	27.8	5.66	2x20MM. 4x.303	364 25000	239 20000		4.6 10000 8.0 20000	39000	510		PRESSURE CABIN POINTED WING TIPS 100 AIRCRAFT BUILT REPLACED BY MK. VII FUEL 108 U.S. GALS.	
SPITFIRE F VII SPEC. F VII/PI	MERLIN 61	1500 24800 1520 12700	40'2"	30'2"	248.5	8900	32.2	6.15	2x20MM. 4x.303 OR 4x20MM.	405 28500	233 20000		7.8 20000	40250	732	3.14	PRESSURE CABIN UNIVERSAL WING RETRACTABLE TAIL WHEEL MARKING TANKS IN WING LEADING EDGES FUEL 144 U.S. GALS.	
SPITFIRE F VIII SPEC. F VIII/PI	MERLIN 61	1500 24800 1520 12700	40'2"	30'2"	248.6	8300	33.4	6.38	2x20MM. 4x.303 OR 4x20MM.	405 28500	220 20000	3050/S.L. 2500/14000 1750/28000	3.1 10000 5.0 20000	40260	738	3.33	RETRACTABLE TAIL WHEEL MARKING WING TANKS FUEL 144 U.S. GALS.	
SPITFIRE F IX	MERLIN 61	1500 24800 1520 12700	36'10"	29'11"	242	7455	30.8	6.73	2x20MM. 4x.303	350 26000	229 20000	4000/S.L.	7.4 20000	40750	472	2.16	BASED ON MK.V RADIATOR UNDER EACH WING FUEL 110 U.S. GALS.	
SPITFIRE F XII	GRIFFON IIB	1425 19000 1610 5000	35'8"	30'2"	220	7400	35.6	6.20	2x20MM. 4x.303	327 18000	225 20000	3750/S.L. 2750/16000		40250	329	1.25	FUEL 102 U.S. GALS. UNIVERSAL WING. CLIPPED TIPS. MEDIUM ALTITUDE FIGHTER 250 ORDERED INCREASED RUDDER AND ELEVATOR AREAS	
SPITFIRE F 20 SPEC. F K.20/PI	GRIFFON IIB	1425 19000 1610 5000	36'10"	30'2"	242	9400	38.8	6.80	6x20MM. OR 2x20MM. 4x.50	330 18000	249 20000			500	2.01	TWO PROTOTYPES ONLY		
SPITFIRE F 21	GRIFFON 61	1470 26250 1725 15000	36'10"	30'2"	242	10250	42.4	6.	4x20MM.	335(a)	428 (a) 30500	247 (a) 20000	3500/S.L.(a) 2000/16000(a) 1250/30000(a)	44000(a)	375	1.52	NEW STANDARD INCREASED RUDDER AND ELEVATOR AREAS FUEL 144 U.S. GALS.	
SEAFIRE IB SPEC. SEAFIRE IB/PI	MERLIN 45 OR 46	1235 17750 1210 21500	36'10"	29'11"	242	6900	28.5	5.59	2x20MM. 4x.303								SEAFIRES ARE SPITFIRES STRESSED FOR CARRIER USE DEVELOPED FROM SPITFIRE VB FITTED WITH ARRESTER HOOKS	
SEAFIRE IIC SPEC. SEAFIRE IIC/PI	MERLIN 45 OR 46	1235 17750 1210 21500	36'10"	29'11"	242	6900	28.5	5.59	2x20MM. 4x.303 OR 3x.303 OR 4x20MM.	363 20000 OR 366 20000	221 20000	3000/14000 OR 3000	6.0 20000	36400 OR 37200	484	2.2 AT 221 MPH	DEVELOPED FROM SPITFIRE VC FITTED WITH ARRESTER HOOKS AND CATAPULT SPOOLS SEAFIRE III SIMILAR BUT WITH FOLD- ING WINGS AND 4-BLADED PROPELLER	

NOTE: (a) PERFORMANCES ESTIMATED