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The Douglas F-11 Tiger was the first fighter capable of level supersonic flight to enter service with the US Navy, but suffered from an underpowered engine and was soon replaced by the Vought F8U-1 Crusader. The Tiger was developed to take advantage of a gap in the US Navy's fighter programme. In the late 1940s four designs had been ordered by the Douglas Aircraft Company, Chance Vought F7U Cutters, Grumman F10F Jaguar and McDonnell F3H Demon. However all four used underperforming Westinghouse jet engines, and none of them were a success. In 1953 the Navy held a design contest for new day and all weather super sonic fighters, and selected the Grumman F8U-F-8 Crusader and McDonnell F4H/F-4 Phantom II. Both of these would go on to be successful designs the F-8 Crusader remained in service as a naval fighter until 1976 and the F-4 Phantom II remained in combat service in the US until 1996 and in Germany until 2013! However in 1953 both were something of a gamble, with neither company having produced swept wing fighters and McDonnell planning to use another untested engine. In the end the Crusader entered service in 1957 and the Phantom in 1961in contrast Grumman were in the middle of producing the F9F Cougar, a swept wing development of the earlier F9F Panther and had gained valuable experience from the F10F. They decided to take advantage of the situation to produce a relatively simple supersonic fighter that would be available before either of the more advanced designsGrummans design team produced an aircraft with very thin swept wings produced by milling down aluminium planks. The fuselage was built using the area rule, giving it a narrow section alongside the wings so the cross section remained equal along the length of the fuselage (also known as the coke bottle shape). The tailplane and elevators would be built into the rear fuselage. It would be powered by the Curtiss Wright J65 engine, which had performed well in the North American F1 Fury and Republic F-84F, although without an afterburner. The new engine proved itself during tests at Edwards Air Force Base, California where it provided Mach 1.56. NAS Moffett Field, California was also involved in testing the Tiger. The first prototype was designated the YF9F-9. The first prototype made its maiden flight on 30 July 1954 through the Grumman test pilot Corky Meyer at the controls, powered by a standard J65-W7 engine without supercharger. It went supersonic in a shallow dive on its second flight. A few minor problems were detected, but these were soon solved. Two weeks later the aircraft was put on show, and the Navy increased its production order from 42 aircraft to 388 (although this never reduced to 201). The second prototype made its maiden flight in October 1954, again without the afterburner. However the first flight by a Navy test pilot, on 20 October 1954, ended with a crash after the engine flamed out and wouldn't restart. Luckily the pilot survived, but the aircraft ended up in a forest. The new afterburner finally arrived in January 1955 and was added to the second prototype. It was expected to increase thrust by 50% and greatly improve the aircrafts rate of climb and high speed performance, which had proved disappointing without it. However the first flight with the afterburner, on 25 January 1955, was itself disappointing. The extra thrust was much less than expected, and at mach 1.03 there was an explosion in the afterburner. The aircraft was otherwise undamaged. After landing it was discovered that a hole had been burnt through the side of the afterburner and most of the fuel system. This was the only existing example of the new afterburner, so its loss set the programme back. The next afterburner didn't arrive until April 1956, and it was still short on power. Top speed in level flight was only Mach 1.05, well down on the contract speed of Mach 1.2.

In August 1955 the Navy gave the tiger to the Naval Weapons Research Center at Lake Charles, Louisiana, thus reducing the top speed of the Tiger. In April 1955 the Tiger was redesignated as the F-11F, acknowledging that it was a very different aircraft to any other of the F9F. The production aircraft were delivered between 15 November 1954 and 23 January 1959. The first operational unit, the Tiger Squadron 156, was based at NAS Moffett Field, California. The Tiger was deployed primarily as a carrier-based fighter, tasked with defending naval assets and engaging enemy aircraft. The Tigers supersonic speed and advanced avionics made it well suited for these roles, and it quickly became a key component of the Navys air power. One of the most notable aspects of the F-11 Tigers operational history was its use by the Blue Angels, the Navys flight demonstration squadron. The Tiger served as the Blue Angels primary aircraft from 1957 to 1969, showcasing its impressive performance and agility in aerial demonstrations. The aircrafts sleek design and powerful engine made it a favorite among pilots and spectators alike. Despite its advanced capabilities, the F-11 Tiger faced challenges in operational service. The introduction of more advanced fighters, such as the McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II, led to the Tigers gradual phase-out from frontline service by the early 1970s. However, the Tigers contributions to naval aviation and its influence on subsequent aircraft designs were significant. Technological ImpactThe Grumman F-11 Tiger represented a technological milestone in naval aviation, pushing the boundaries of speed and agility in jet fighter design. Its introduction of afterburner technology and advanced avionics set a new standard for future aircraft, ensuring its place in history as a pivotal aircraft of the Cold War era. The Tigers use of afterburners demonstrated the potential for achieving supersonic speeds in naval aircraft, influencing the development of subsequent fighters. The advanced avionics systems on the Tiger provided a foundation for future advancements in radar and fire-control technology, enhancing the capabilities of later jet fighters. Additionally, the F-11 Tigers design principles, such as its sleek aerodynamics and powerful engine, influenced the development of subsequent naval aircraft. The lessons learned from the Tigers operational service and technological innovations significantly enhanced its speed and maneuverability capabilities. It also featured advanced avionics, including a sophisticated radar and fire-control system. Q: How did the F-11 Tiger perform in combat situations?A: While primarily a reconnaissance and interceptor aircraft, the F-11 Tiger demonstrated its combat prowess during various Cold War-era exercises and deployments. Its speed, agility, and advanced avionics made it a formidable opponent in aerial engagements. Q: What led to the retirement of the F-11 Tiger from active service?A: The introduction of more advanced fighters, such as the F-4 Phantom II, and changing strategic requirements led to the gradual phase-out of the F-11 Tiger from frontline service by the early 1970s. However, its technological contributions and influence on future aircraft designs were significant. ConclusionThe Grumman F-11 Tiger represented a technological milestone in naval aviation, pushing the boundaries of speed and agility in jet fighter design. Its introduction of afterburner technology and advanced avionics set a new standard for future aircraft, ensuring its place in history as a pivotal aircraft of the Cold War era. The Tigers combination of sleek design, powerful engine, and advanced avionics made it a standout aircraft in its time. Its contributions to the development of supersonic jet fighters and its influence on subsequent aircraft designs highlight its enduring legacy. The lessons learned from the F-11 Tigers development and operational service continue to shape the future of naval aviation, demonstrating the importance of innovation and technological advancement in military aircraft. The Grumman F-11 Tiger was a supersonic fighter aircraft developed for the United States Navy in the late 1950s. Recognized for its speed, agility, and advanced avionics, the F-11 Tiger represented a significant leap forward in jet fighter technology during the Cold War era. This article will explore the history, specifications, features, and the lasting impact of the F-11 Tiger on naval aviation. HistoryDesigned to replace the successful F9F Panther, the F-11 Tiger was developed during a period of rapid advances in jet technology, as the United States sought to maintain air superiority during the Cold War. The Tiger was designed to incorporate several innovative features to meet these requirements. One of the key innovations of the F-11 Tiger was its use of afterburners. The Pratt & Whitney J57-P-4A turbojet engine with afterburner provided the necessary thrust to achieve supersonic speeds. This technology allowed the Tiger to reach speeds of up to 1,100 mph (1,770 km/h), making it one of the fastest aircraft of its time. The afterburner also improved the aircrafts acceleration and climb rate, enhancing its overall performance in combat situations. Another significant feature of the F-11 Tiger was its advanced avionics. The aircraft was equipped with a sophisticated radar system and fire-control system, allowing it to engage both air and ground targets with precision. These systems represented a significant leap forward in avionics technology, providing the Tiger with enhanced situational awareness and targeting capabilities. Specs & FeaturesThe Grumman F-11 Tiger was equipped with several notable features: Engine: One Pratt & Whitney J57-P-4A turbojet engine with afterburner, providing 10,200 pounds of thrust. Top Speed: Approximately 1,100 mph (1,770 km/h), making it a supersonic fighter. Range: Around 1,300 miles (2,100 km), allowing for extended missions over both land and sea. Armament: Four 20mm Colt Mk 12 cannons, AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles, and various boom configurations. Crew: Single pilot, with a cockpit designed for excellent visibility and advanced avionics. The Tigers sleek design and powerful engine allowed it to achieve impressive speeds and perform tight maneuvers, essential for combat operations in both air superiority and ground attack roles. Its advanced avionics and weapon systems provided it with the capabilities needed to engage a wide range of targets effectively. OperationsThe F-11 Tiger saw operational service with the U.S. Navy in the late 1950s to the early 1960s. 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English, Thai English, Urdu English, Vietnamese EnglishThesaurusEnglish (UK, U.S.), Chinese (Simplified)Spell checkEnglish, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, Arabic Najdi, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish, TurkishApple Pay supported regionsArmenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China mainland,16 Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Guernsey, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jersey, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macao, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, U.S., Vatican City iPhone 11USB-C to Lightning CableDocumentationAs part of our efforts to reach our environmental goals, iPhone 11 does not include a power adapter or EarPods. Included in the box is a USB-C to Lightning cable that supports fast charging and is compatible with USB-C power adapters and computer ports.We encourage you to reuse your current power adapters and headphones that are compatible with this iPhone. But if you need any new Apple power adapters or headphones, they are available for purchase. iPhone 11 is designed with the following features to reduce its environmental impact:17See the iPhone 11 Product Environmental ReportsMade with better materials100% recycled rare earth elements in the Taptic Engine18100% recycled tin in the solder of the main logic board35% or more recycled plastic in multiple componentsEnergy efficientMeets U.S. Department of Energy requirements for battery charger systems19Smarter chemistry20Arsenic-free display glassMercury-, BFR-, PVC-, and berylliumfreeGreen manufacturingApples Zero Waste Program helps suppliers eliminate waste sent to landfillAll final assembly supplier sites are transitioning to 100% renewable energy for Apple productionResponsible packaging100% of virgin wood fiber comes from responsibly managed forests90% or more fiber-based packagingApple and the EnvironmentWere committed to making our products without taking from the earth, and to become carbon neutral across our entire business, including products, by 2030.See Apples commitment Available space is less and varies due to many factors. A standard configuration uses approximately 12GB to 17GB of space, including iOS 15 with its latest features and Apple apps that can be deleted. Apple apps that can be deleted use about 4.5GB of space, and you can download them back from the App Store. Storage capacity subject to change based on software version, settings, and iPhone model.Size and weight vary by configuration and manufacturing process.iPhone 11 is splash, water, and dust resistant and was tested under controlled laboratory conditions with a rating of IP68 under IEC standard 60529 (maximum depth of 2 meters up to 30 minutes). Splash, water, and dust resistance are not permanent conditions. Resistance might decrease as a result of normal wear. Do not attempt to charge a wet iPhone; refer to the user guide for cleaning and drying instructions. Liquid damage not covered under warranty.To send and receive money with Apple Pay, you must be at least 18 years old and a resident of the United States. If youre under 18 years old in the United States, your family organizer can set up Apple Cash for you as part of Apple Cash Family. Then you can send and receive money with Apple Pay. Sending and receiving money with Apple Pay and the Apple Cash card are services provided by Green Dot Bank, Member FDIC. Learn more about the Terms and Conditions.Available only in select cities and transit systems. Requires eligible device and OS version. See here for details.Data plan required. Gigabitclass LTE, VoLTE, and WiFi calling are available in select markets and through select carriers. Speeds are based on theoretical throughput and vary based on site conditions and carrier. For details on LTE support, contact your carrier and see apple.com/iphone/cellular.Ultra Wideband availability varies by region.FaceTime calling requires a FaceTimeenabled device for the caller and recipient and a WiFi connection. Availability over a cellular network depends on carrier policies; data charges may apply.Standard Dynamic Range video content only.Siri may not be available in all languages or in all areas, and features may vary by area. Internet access required. Cellular data charges may apply.All battery claims depend on network configuration and many other factors; actual results will vary. Battery has limited recharge cycles and may eventually need to be replaced. Battery life and charge cycles vary by use and settings. See apple.com/batteries and apple.com/iphone/battery.html for more information.Testing conducted by Apple in August 2019 using preproduction iPhone 11, iPhone 11 Pro, and iPhone 11 Pro Max units and software and accessory Apple USB-C Power Adapters (18W Model A1720, 29W Model A1540, 30W Model A1882, 61W Model A1947 and 87W Model A1719). Fastcharge testing conducted with drained iPhone units. Charge time varies with environmental factors; actual results will vary.Qi wireless chargers sold separately.Use of eSIM requires a wireless service plan (which may include restrictions on switching service providers and roaming, even after contract expiration). Not all carriers support eSIM. Use of eSIM in iPhone may be disabled when purchased from some carriers. See your carrier for details. To learn more, visit broadband recommended; fees may apply.In China mainland, you can use Apple Pay on the web in Safari only on compatible iPhone and iPad models using iOS 11.2 or later.Data accurate as of product launch.The Taptic Engine represents about 25% of the total rare earth elements used in the product.Efficiency performance is based on the U.S. Department of Energy Federal Energy Conservation Standards for Battery Chargers.Apple defines its restrictions on harmful substances, including definitions for what Apple considers to be free of, in the Apple Regulated Substances Specification. Every Apple product is free of PVC and phthalates with the exception of AC power cords in India, Thailand (for two-prong AC power cords), and South Korea, where we continue to seek government approval for our PVC and phthalates replacement.

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