

Fieser Fi103/Re4

The manned Fi103 (commonly called the V-1) was developed in 1944 to enable precise attacks on priority targets. The project was abandoned in late 1944 before the weapon was put into action.

Development of the Fi103 began in 1942 and the first one was tested in December 1942. From July 1944 over 8,600 were fired at London and almost 14,000 against other targets in Europe. Development of the manned Fi103 began in late 1943 and approval for the project was given in March 1944 as the German war situation degenerated. Four versions were planned including an unpowered glider and two two-seat-trainer versions, with the Re4 being the operational version. In theory pilots would aim their missiles and then bail out but, in practise, this would have been very difficult to achieve safely. About 175 were produced but their development and planned use were abandoned in late 1944.

This model represents a typical Fi103/Re4.

Data: single-seat piloted missile. *Engine* one Argus 109-014 pulse jet engine of 350kg (772lb) thrust. *Wing span* 5.72m (18ft 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ in). *Length* 8.00m (26ft 3in). *Maximum launch weight* 2250kg (4960lb). *Maximum speed* 800km/h (497mph). *Range* 330km (205miles).

Heller 1/72 kit. Completed in 1981



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