F-16 Multirole Fighter ##VERIFIED## Crack Ful

Back in 1968, after about three years of testing, the US Army ordered ten low-rate initial production F-16A, Block 50 airframes to replace the F-4 Phantom II. The F-16 was the worlds first purpose built multi-role fighter. Up to this point, US fighter jets had focused on missiles and rocket-launching that functioned like a giant system of nozzles, each manned by a fighter pilot. The F-16s were not really a fighter, though - they could carry bombs, missiles and rocket pods as well as a wide array of electronic countermeasure pods and sensors. In order to fully assess the F-16s capabilities, the United States Air Force placed the fighter against the F-15 Eagle. The F-16 was actually a better dogfighter than the F-15, but the F-15 was more maneuverable and, in spite of the original F-16s problems, was a better interceptor against conventional air-to-air threats. The F-16s last hurrah was as a cheap and effective way for the F-15 to keep on working. The F-16A block 50 was its first major upgrade, and the first major change since F-4 orders took the fighter away from frontline dogfighting. The Block 50 saw the F-16s armament improved with a mix of the AIM-9L Sidewinder and AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles. The Block 50 kits were all-new wings with longer span and beefier fuselage, which provided the fighter with ample room to carry the new Hydra rocket pods and beyond. This kit provided an unprecedented amount of thrust-vectoring capability. It also equipped the F-16 with a digital terrain awareness system (DTS) that could automatically adjust the jets pitch angle to steer the aircraft into the appropriate position to avoid terrain. The Block 50 included an improved cockpit, modern avionics and increased radar and targeting system compatibility. Though the overall package was much improved, the F-16s systems were still out of date by the time the last of the 100 F-16As Block 50 aircraft were delivered in December 1984. The first of the next generation of fighters, the F-16C, would be built using the Block 60, which provided more powerful Rolls-Royce engines.

the air force proposed a new aircraft design in 1996 and selected a new aircraft in 1998. on september 3, 1998, the usaf chief of staff announced that the f-16 block ii would be replaced by a new single-engine multi-role fighter, designated the f-16 block ii. the f-16 was to have been phased out after a production run of 3,000 units. the new fighter would be equipped with an advanced avionics suite, new sensors, and advanced engine, as well as a new weapons system. the f-16's age and limited production run would also be addressed in the new fighter. the new fighter would be produced at a rate of 150 units per year. when the new fighter entered production, it was to have cost approximately $33 million, with unit costs declining by $9 million per year. the mrf program was restarted, with plans to produce the new fighter by 2005. development of the new aircraft was to have cost around $6.3 billion. the f-16's technical design and developmental risks were to be phased out by the new aircraft. the new fighter was to incorporate many of the f-16's deficiencies, as well as correct its others. the new fighter was to be a twin-engine design, with a flyaway unit cost of $48.5 million. the f-16 was a twin-engine, single-seat fighter. it could be classified as a multirole fighter, as it was initially designed for air-to-ground, air-to-air, and close air support missions. the f-16 was designed to fly at a maximum speed of mach 1.6. it was armed with a range of air-to-air and air-to-ground weapons, including sidewinder air-to-air missiles, agm-65 maverick air-to-air missiles, and beyond-visual-range (bvr) missiles. in addition, it was equipped with a variety of ordnance stores. the f-16 is armed with a single 12.7mm (.50 caliber) m61a1 gatling gun, which is fired from a fully electrically operated, computer-operated weapon station. the f-16 was equipped with an internal weapons bay for carrying a variety of aerial munitions. the f-16 is also equipped with an internal weapons bay for carrying munitions, including air-to-air, air-to-ground, and beyond-visual-range (bvr) munitions. the f-16 has been equipped with an internal weapons bay for carrying munitions, including air-to-air, air-to-ground, and beyond-visual-range (bvr) munitions. 5ec8ef588b