

AMPS Atlanta 2017 Club Project

M60A1 Series History

Approved in March 21, 1960 was the initial program that lead to the M60A1. This new variant was first produced in October 1962 and stayed in production until 1980. It featured a larger, better-shaped turret and improvements to the armor protection and shock absorbers.

Improvements Over the M60:

- Additional space for the turret crew was made available by mounting the cannon 5" forward.
- The upper glacis armor was increased from 3.67 inches to 4.29 inches at 65 degrees while the sides over the crew compartment went from 1.9 inches to 2.9 inches at their apex.
- Shock absorbers were installed in the first two and last road wheel arms.
- The engine and power train were upgraded by the addition of the Continental AVDS-1790-2A and the CD-850-6A. The new engine lowered fuel consumption and smoke emissions.
- Combination day-IR periscopes were introduced, the M32 for the gunner and the M36 for the commander although the commander's periscope could be substituted with the M34 for binocular vision without IR.

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The M60A1 was forced to serve longer than originally intended with production lasting over 20 years. A total of 7,653 were produced from 1963 – 1978.

Additional Improvements to the M60A1:

- TLAC, for Top Loading Air Cleaner
- AOS meaning Add-On Stabilization that was introduced in late 1972
 - An add on stabilizer kit made to fit with minimum modifications to the existing hydraulic gun control system. It was made up of several components: the rate sensor package, a control selector box, the electronics package, a shut-off valve, the traverse servo-valve assembly, the elevation servo-valve assembly, the handle shaping assembly, an hydraulic filter, and an anti-backlash cylinder.
- The new T142 steel track, which had replaceable rubber pads and improved service life.
- In 1975, the M60A1(RISE) meaning Reliability Improved Selected Equipment was introduced. Its AVDS-1790-2C diesel engine featured stronger cylinders; improved starter, fuel injection lines, and nozzles; and better turbo superchargers.
- The M60A1(RISE)(PASSIVE), which debuted in 1977, featured passive night vision sights for gunner and commander, a new night vision device for the driver and a deep water fording kit.

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Current Operators

- **Greece:** 357 M60A1 RISE Passive. Most in reserve.
- **Iran:** 150 M60A1 (2010). One of the first M60 tanks delivered to Iran was hijacked to the **Soviet Union** in 1961.
- **Jordan:** 182 M60A1
- **Oman:** 93 M60A1
- **Saudi Arabia:** 250 M60A1
- **Sudan:** 20 M60A1
- **Thailand:** 53 M60A1 RISE ex-U.S. Army
- **Tunisia:** 30 M60A1 RISE Passive.
- **Turkey:** 104 M60A1 RISE.
- **Yemen:** 240 M60A1 RISE Passive (fate unknown with fall of Yemeni Government)

Former Operators

- **Argentina:** 1 M60A1 for test only.
- **Italy:** 300 M60A1 (equipping five battalions)
- **Israel:** 300 M60A1 (many destroyed during the Yom Kipper War in 1973)
- **United States:** Retired from service as training vehicles 2005. (Some still in reserve/storage.)

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After Market Kits: (Resin/Plastic/etc)

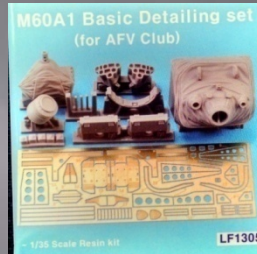
Legend:



LF1031



LF1341



LF1305



LF1306

Tamiya MM141



T97E2 Track Kit:

- AFV Club # 35005
- DEF Model #DA35003

T-142 Track Kits:

- AFV Club #35010
- Fruilmodel #ATL-143
- Bronco # AB3529
- Spade Ace # 35138

DEF Models:



DM #35001



DM #35073

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Book References

A History of the American Main Battle Tank, Vol 1 : Hunnicutt

M60 Main Battle Tank, 1960–91: Vanguard

M60, M60A1 & M728: Tankograd # 3021

REFORGER 1969-1978, 1979-1985: Tankograd # 3006, #3007

US Battle Tanks Today: Tanks Illustrated #8

Website Reference

M60 Online Modeler's reference:

https://www.cybermodeler.com/armor/m60/m60_all.shtml

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Build Sequence:

- Part 1 – **June**: Steps 1 - 6: Lower Hull & Running Gear
(Also discuss Casting Texture)
- Part 2 – **July**: Steps 7 – 9: Driver's Compartment
- Part 3 – **August**: 10 – 20: Upper Deck
- Part 4 – **September**: 21 – 26: Turret (Including Main gun)
- Part 5 – **October**: 27 – 30: Commanders Cupola & Xenon/IR Lights
- Part 6 – **November**: Color Schemes