

IMPRINT

models

T-80UK

RUSSIA'S T-80 main battle tank is successor to the T-64, and when production of the T-80 began in 1976, it used T-64 components.

The T-80U, a descendent of the T-80, was developed in the early 1980s.

It was the first Soviet operational tank to be powered by gas turbines, and the first to incorporate a laser range finder and ballistic computer system.

The Kirov plant in Leningrad produced the hull, and the Kharkov design bureau in the Ukraine developed the turret and armament, which included Kontakt-5 reactive armour and a new guided tank missile, the Refleks, to be fired from the tank's main armament, a 125mm smoothbore gun.

It began production in 1987 at the Kirov Plant and the Omsk Tank Plant in Siberia.

With the break-up of the USSR in 1991, tank production, moved from Kirovto to Omsk. Diesel powered T-80s were developed at Kharkov in the Ukraine.

However, Russia refused to supply tank parts to the Ukraine, so in the mid-1990s there

Our model is a command version of the T-80U with Shtora-1 anti-tank guided missile countermeasure system and the Brod-M deep wading bustle fitted.



were two separate developments of the T-80 – the T-80U family in Omsk, and the T-84 in Kharkov.

In 1995 the Russian army decided to standardise its tanks and opted for the T-90 (a development of the T-72) instead of the T-80U because of the poor performance of T-80BV models in Chechnya, which proved very vulnerable to RPG attack from the rear. As a result the Omsk tank plant had to rely on export orders for the T-80U, in competition with the Kharkov plant, and it is now possible to buy 'made to measure' T-80Us with a wide variety of options.

The Russian army is now considering the T-80UM-2 Black Eagle.

SPECIFICATIONS

Designation: T-80U

Length: 7.01m

Height: 2.20m

Width: 3.60m

Ground pressure: 0.92kg/cm²

Combat weight: 46mt

Crew: 3

Engine: 1250-hp gas turbine multi-fuel (diesel on T-80UD). Armoured external 1kw auxiliary power unit fitted beneath fuel tank bracket on left rear to provide power when main engine is not running.

Range: 335km (600km with extra tanks)

Speed: 70km/h road max, 48km/h off-road

Fording depth: 1.8m unprepared, 5m with snorkel, 12m with Brod-M system

Armament:

Stabilised 125mm smoothbore gun with laser rangefinder and AGAVA-2 night firing system. Max effective range up to 3,000m (day) 1,300m (night). Rate of fire: 7-8 rd/min. Loader type: Autoloader and manual (28 in loader carousel and 17 stowed)

Ammunition:

125mm APFSDS (penetration up to 630mm at 2,000m); HE-shrapnel: HEAT; AT-11/SVIR or AT11B/INVAR ATGM fired from main gun with laser beam rider guidance (penetration up to 800mm behind ERA protection, 870mm without)

Acquisition range: 2,600m (gun rounds) 5,000m ATGM (70% hit chance)

Auxiliary weapons: 7.62mm co-axial machinegun; 12.7mm AA MG on turret top can be remotely fired

Protection:

Turret front proof against 120mm ammunition; applique armour on side of hull and track skirt; Kontakt-5 ERA; Shtora-1 and Arena available.

Vehicle also has infra-red searchlight, NBC protection system, smoke grenade dischargers, engine exhaust smoke system and self-entrenching blade.

PRODUCTION

T-80

Production starts in 1976 with T-64 parts

T-80B

1978 redesign with modified turret and new composite ceramic armour

T-80BV

Best of the first generation T-80s, basic T-80B retrofitted in mid-1980s with Kontakt ERA (explosive reactive armour)

T-80U

First seen in 1989, has second generation ERA (Kontakt-5) and AT-11 Sniper laser guided anti-tank missile in place of older Kobra. Also has more powerful engine

T-80UD

Produced in the Ukraine

with diesel instead of turbine engine, and welded turret

T-80UK

Command version with improved radios, AGAVA thermal sight and Shtora-1 optronic countermeasures system, which incorporates laser targeting detection and IR emitters with a quick-forming aerosol screening system to protect against laser-guided anti-tank/air-to-ground missiles or projectiles.

T-80UM

Additional gunner's thermal sight and commander viewing screen

T-80UM-1 'Bars' (Snow Leopard)

As normal T80U with

addition of both Shtora-1 passive and Arena active defence systems. Arena includes large sensor array on turret and fragmentation grenade dischargers to counter ATGMs

T-80UM-2 (Black Eagle)

Unfinished prototype first displayed in 1999. Has completely new turret with highly sloped front, new generation of built-in reactive armour, and may use Drozd-2 active defence system using small missiles

T-84

New Ukrainian upgrade of T-80UD with welded turret, French thermal sight, more powerful engine and option of Shtora-1 and Arena.

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