

Aermacchi MB-339



The Aermacchi MB-339 is a trainer and light-attack aircraft. It was developed from the MB-326.

Versions

MB-339A

The MB-339A was developed from the MB-326K. It gained a new forward fuselage for two crew, with the rear one being elevated to give better visibility, a new tail, and deleted the internal guns. It kept the wing and the 4,000 lbf Viper 632-43 engine. The additional weight of the fuselage modifications reduced the stores capacity to 3,500 lb.

The MB-339A was used by the Italian AMI (one hundred and seven), the Argentine COAN (ten MB-339AA), the Ghanaian Air Force (four), the Malaysian RMAF (thirteen MB-339AN), the Peruvian Air Force (sixteen MB-339AP), and the Nigerian Air Force (twelve MB-339AN), and the UAE Air Force (seventeen).

MB-339C and MB-339CD

The MB-339C is largely similar to the A, but has updated flight controls and avionics, including a RWR. The CD version also has a

The MB-339C serves with the Italian AMI (thirty MB-339CD), the Eritrean Air Force (six MB-339CE), and the Malaysian RMAF (MB-339CM).

MB-339CB

The MB-339CB is largely similar to the C, but uses the more powerful 4,440 lbf Viper 680-43 engine.

The MB-339CB served with the RNZAF from 1991 to 2003 and then with the French AA from 2019 for DACT.

Armament and Stores

The MB-339 can be armed with gun pods (including ones with a 30 mm DEFA cannon and .50 cal machine guns),

rocket pods, bombs, and is wired for AIM-9 Sidewinder and Matra R.550 Magic IRMs. It can use 330L FTs.

In Argentine COAN service, it was typically armed with two gun pods each with a 30 mm DEFA cannon and 120 rounds per gun and then either two LAU-10 RP (each with four Zuni rockets), two Matra-155 RPs (each with twelve 68 mm rockets), or two Mk 81 or Mk 82 BBs. The LAU-10 RPs were favored in the South Atlantic War.

Combat

Argentine COAN MB-339As saw combat in the 1982 South Atlantic War, flying out of BAM Malvinas (Port Stanley Airport). They were used for armed reconnaissance and close air support. Of the seven deployed to the Islands, one crashed in poor weather, one was shot down by a Blowpipe, two were destroyed on the ground by naval gunfire, one was unable to escape, and two escaped back to the mainland.

Eritrean MB-339Cs saw combat in the 1998-2000 Eritrean–Ethiopian War.

ADCs

- MB-339A
- MB-339C
- MB-339CD
- MB-339CB

See Also

- Aermacchi MB-326

Photo Credit

- MB-339CD: Jim van de Burgt (Public Domain)

MB-339A										Crew: Pilot and Observer				
										Maneuver DPs: LR/DR 2.0 VR 1.0				
Turn DPs: CL 1/2 DT TT 0.5 0.5 0.5 HT 0.5 1.0 1.0 BT 1.0 1.0 1.5 ET — — —														
										Power APs/DPs: ○ CL 1/2 DT Fuel AB — — — — M 1.5 1.0 1.0 2.0 N 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.0 I 1.0 1.0 1.0 0.0 SPBR 1.0 1.0 2.0 —				
Cruise Spd. CL: 4.5 Restr. Arcs: 60– Climb Spd.: 3.5 Blind Arcs: 30– Visibility: 5 Internal Fuel: 120 Size: +0 AtA Refuel: No Vulnerability: –2 Ejection Seat: Std														
Speeds and Ceilings						Climb Capabilities								
Alt. Band	Conf. Ceil.	CL 47	1/2 40	DT 35	Dive Speed	CL AB Oth	1/2 AB Oth	DT AB Oth						
EH+	46+	3.0 – 5.0	—	—	6.0	— 0.5	— —	— —	EH+					
VH	36–45	2.5 – 5.0	2.5 – 4.5	—	6.0	— 0.5	— 0.5	— —	VH					
HI	26–35	2.0 – 5.0	2.5 – 5.0	2.5 – 4.5	6.0	— 0.5	— 0.5	— 0.5	HI					
MH	17–25	1.5 – 5.5	2.0 – 5.0	2.0 – 4.5	6.0	— 1.0	— 0.5	— 0.5	MH					
ML	8–16	1.5 – 5.5	1.5 – 5.0	1.5 – 4.5	6.0	— 1.0	— 1.0	— 0.5	ML					
LO	0–7	1.0 – 5.5	1.5 – 5.0	1.5 – 4.5	6.0	— 1.0	— 1.0	— 1.0	LO					
Radar: — ECCM: — Arcs: — Search: — Track: — Lock-On: —					ECM: IFF RWR: — DDS: — DJM: — AJM: — BJM: —					Weapon Stations Diagram:				
Guns: — To Hit: — Ammunition: — Gunsight: TT+0/HT+2/BT+3 Ranging: — AtA/AtG: —					Technology: None									
Bomb System: Manual														
Notes: 1. The Aermacchi MB-339A is a trainer and light-attack aircraft. It is derived from the MB-326K, but has a new forward cockpit for a second crew member and no internal guns. 2. High transonic drag (HTD).					Load Point Limits: CL : < 4 1/2: < 6 Weight Limit: 3,500 DT : ≥ 6									
					Station Limit Allowed Loads 1 and 6 750 BB BG RP RK GP EP IRM 2 and 5 1,000 BB BG RP RK RG GP EP FT 3 and 4 1,000 BB BG RP RK RG GP EP PP									
					Load Notes: 1. May use 330L FTs. 2. May use AIM-9 and R.550 IRMs 3. PP may only be used on station 4.									
					VPs: 11/7/4/2					v3 0000000 0000-00-00T00:00:00				

MB-339C										Crew: Pilot and Observer							
										Maneuver DPs:							
LR/DR		2.0															
VR		1.0															
Power APs/DPs: ○										Turn DPs:							
CL		1/2		DT		Fuel		CL		1/2		DT					
AB		—		—		—		TT		0.5		0.5					
M		1.5		1.0		1.0		HT		0.5		1.0					
N		0.0		0.0		0.0		BT		1.0		1.5					
I		1.0		1.0		1.0		ET		—		—					
SPBR		1.0		1.0		2.0											
					Cruise Spd. CL: 4.5 Restr. Arcs: 60–												
					Climb Spd.: 3.5 Blind Arcs: 30–												
					Visibility: 5 Internal Fuel: 120												
					Size: +0 AtA Refuel: No												
					Vulnerability: −2 Ejection Seat: Std												
Speeds and Ceilings						Climb Capabilities											
Alt. Conf.		CL		1/2		DT		Dive		CL		1/2		DT			
Band Ceil.		47		40		35		Speed		AB Oth		AB Oth		AB Oth			
EH+		46+		3.0 – 5.0		—		—		6.0		— 0.5		— —			
VH		36–45		2.5 – 5.0		2.5 – 4.5		—		6.0		— 0.5		— —			
HI		26–35		2.0 – 5.0		2.5 – 5.0		2.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 0.5		— 0.5			
MH		17–25		1.5 – 5.5		2.0 – 5.0		2.0 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 0.5			
ML		8–16		1.5 – 5.5		1.5 – 5.0		1.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 0.5			
LO		0–7		1.0 – 5.5		1.5 – 5.0		1.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 1.0			
Radar:				—		ECM:				IFF		Weapon Stations Diagram:					
ECCM:				—		RWR:				C							
Arcs:				—		DDS:				—							
Search:				—		DJM:				—							
Track:				—		AJM:				—							
Lock-On:				—		BJM:				—							
Guns:				—		Technology:				Load Point Limits:				CL : < 4			
To Hit:				—		None								1/2: < 6			
Ammunition:				—						Weight Limit:				3,500		DT : ≥ 6	
Gunsight:				TT+0/HT+2/BT+3						Station				Limit		Allowed Loads	
Ranging:				—						1 and 6				750		BB BG RP RK GP EP IRM	
AtA/AtG:				—						2 and 5				1,000		BB BG RP RK RG GP EP FT	
Bomb System:				Computed						3 and 4				1,000		BB BG RP RK RG GP EP PP	
Notes:												Load Notes:					
1. The Aermacchi MB-339C is a trainer and light-attack aircraft. It is derived from the MB-339A, but has updated avionics and flight controls.												1. May use 330L FTs.					
2. High transonic drag (HTD).												2. May use AIM-9 and R.550 IRMs					
												3. PP may only be used on station 4.					

MB-339CD										Crew: Pilot and Observer					
										Maneuver DPs:					
LR/DR		2.0													
VR		1.0													
Power APs/DPs: ○										Turn DPs:					
CL		1/2		DT		Fuel		CL		1/2		DT			
AB		—		—		—		TT		0.5		0.5			
M		1.5		1.0		2.0		HT		0.5		1.0			
N		0.0		0.0		1.0		BT		1.0		1.5			
I		1.0		1.0		0.0		ET		—		—			
SPBR		1.0		1.0		—									
					Cruise Spd. CL: 4.5 Restr. Arcs: 60–										
					Climb Spd.: 3.5 Blind Arcs: 30–										
					Visibility: 5 Internal Fuel: 120										
					Size: +0 AtA Refuel: Yes										
					Vulnerability: −2 Ejection Seat: Std										
Speeds and Ceilings						Climb Capabilities									
Alt. Conf.		CL		1/2		DT		Dive		CL		1/2		DT	
Band Ceil.		47		40		35		Speed		AB Oth		AB Oth		AB Oth	
EH+		46+		3.0 – 5.0		—		—		6.0		— 0.5		— —	
VH		36–45		2.5 – 5.0		2.5 – 4.5		—		6.0		— 0.5		— —	
HI		26–35		2.0 – 5.0		2.5 – 5.0		2.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 0.5		— 0.5	
MH		17–25		1.5 – 5.5		2.0 – 5.0		2.0 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 0.5	
ML		8–16		1.5 – 5.5		1.5 – 5.0		1.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 0.5	
LO		0–7		1.0 – 5.5		1.5 – 5.0		1.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 1.0	
Radar: —					ECM: IFF					Weapon Stations Diagram:					
ECCM: —					RWR: C										
Arcs: —					DDS: —										
Search: —					DJM: —										
Track: —					AJM: —										
Lock-On: —					BJM: —										
Guns: —					Technology:					Load Point Limits: CL : < 4					
To Hit: —					None					1/2: < 6					
Ammunition: —										Weight Limit: 3,500 DT : ≥ 6					
Gunsight: TT+0/HT+2/BT+3										Station Limit Allowed Loads					
Ranging: —										1 and 6 750 BB BG RP RK GP EP IRM					
AtA/AtG: —										2 and 5 1,000 BB BG RP RK RG GP EP FT					
										3 and 4 1,000 BB BG RP RK RG GP EP PP					
Bomb System: Computed										Load Notes:					
Notes: 1. The Aermacchi MB-339CD is a trainer and light-attack aircraft. It is derived from the MB-339C, but is equipped with a fixed refueling probe. 2. High transonic drag (HTD).										1. May use 330L FTs.					
										2. May use AIM-9 and R.550 IRMs					
										3. PP may only be used on station 4.					
					VPs: 11/7/4/2					v3 0000000 0000-00-00T00:00:00					

MB-339CB										Crew: Pilot and Observer									
										Maneuver DPs: <div>LR/DR2.0</div> <div>VR1.0</div>									
Turn DPs: <div><div>CL1/2DT</div><div>TT0.50.50.5</div><div>HT0.51.01.0</div><div>BT1.01.01.5</div><div>ET— — —</div></div>																			
															Cruise Spd. CL: 4.5 Restr. Arcs: 60– Climb Spd.: 3.5 Blind Arcs: 30– Visibility: 5 Internal Fuel: 120 Size: +0 AtA Refuel: No Vulnerability: –2 Ejection Seat: Std				
Power APs/DPs: ○ <div><div>CL1/2DTFuel</div><div>AB— — — —</div><div>M1.51.51.02.0</div><div>N0.00.00.01.0</div><div>I1.01.01.00.0</div><div>SPBR1.01.02.0—</div></div>																			
Speeds and Ceilings						Climb Capabilities													
Alt. Band	Conf. Ceil.	CL 47		1/2 40		DT 35		Dive Speed		CL AB Oth		1/2 AB Oth		DT AB Oth					
EH+	46+	3.0 – 5.0		—		—		6.0		— 0.5		— —		— —		EH+			
VH	36–45	2.5 – 5.0		2.5 – 4.5		—		6.0		— 0.5		— 0.5		— —		VH			
HI	26–35	2.0 – 5.0		2.5 – 5.0		2.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 0.5		— 0.5		— 0.5		HI			
MH	17–25	1.5 – 5.5		2.0 – 5.0		2.0 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 0.5		— 0.5		MH			
ML	8–16	1.5 – 5.5		1.5 – 5.0		1.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 1.0		— 0.5		ML			
LO	0–7	1.0 – 5.5		1.5 – 5.0		1.5 – 4.5		6.0		— 1.0		— 1.0		— 1.0		LO			
Radar: ECCM: Arcs: Search: Track: Lock-On:					— — — — — —					ECM: RWR: DDS: DJM: AJM: BJM:					IFF C — — — —				
Guns: To Hit: Ammunition: Gunsight: Ranging: AtA/AtG:					— — — TT+0/HT+2/BT+3 — —					Technology: None					Load Point Limits: CL : < 4 1/2: < 6 Weight Limit: 3,500 DT : ≥ 6				
Bomb System: Computed										StationLimitAllowed Loads 1 and 6750BB BG RP RK GP EP IRM 2 and 51,000BB BG RP RK RG GP EP FT 3 and 41,000BB BG RP RK RG GP EP PP									
Notes: 1. The Aermacchi MB-339CB is a trainer and light-attack aircraft. It is derived from the MB-339C, but has a more powerful Viper 680-43 engine. 2. High transonic drag (HTD).										Load Notes: 1. May use 330L FTs. 2. May use AIM-9 and R.550 IRMs 3. PP may only be used on station 4.									
					VPs: 12/8/4/2										v3 0000000 0000-00-00T00:00:00				