

Gunpla is usually what people who are into the hobby call the plastic assemblable model kits made after the mechs of the show “Mobile Suit Gundam” and its later iterations. Gundam refers to the main mech or “Mobile Suit” of the first series called the “RX-78-2 Gundam” with preceding series’ main mobile suit having the same color scheme, the red, white, blue and yellow.



(Left is the original appearance of the first gundam in the 1979 series. Right is the modern redesign)

Mobile Suit Gundam is a series created by Yoshiyuki Tomino and Hajime Yatake, with the rise of shows like Getter Robo and Mazinger called the super robots, these super robots are often characterized by their magical or ancient civilization whatevers and energy sources to fight villains. While Gundam falls into the line of real robots, they are mechs and robots that try to feel grounded, often with futuristic technology, to make cool things like laser beams and giant lasers a thing because what is a mech show with big lasers right? The most unrealistic part of this show are people called “newtypes”; they are essentially people who are born or live in space that have heightened awareness of their space and other newtypes, with some being telepaths.

Multiple Gundam shows are about war showing the effects of that war on the people involved, showing that there is no real good side, with both having flaws. The whole

idea and message of Gundam and some of its other series is that “War is bad and coexistence is better.”

The Gundam franchise has multiple series, with some taking place in their own timelines to separate themselves from the main and original timeline called the “Universal Century” or UC for short, with this having the most shows, movies and manga done about it. Other timelines being way shorter. Here is each timeline with their own series

Future Century (FC):
Mobile Fighter G Gundam

After Colony (AC):
Mobile Suit Gundam Wing
Gundam Wing Endless Waltz

After War (AW):
After War Gundam X

Advanced Generation (AG):
Mobile Suit Gundam Age

Cosmic Era (CE):
Mobile Suit Gundam Seed
Mobile Suit Gundam Seed destiny
Mobile Suit Gundam Seed Stargazer
Mobile Suit Gundam Seed Freedom

A.D. Anno Domini: 00
Mobile Suit Gundam 00
Mobile Suit Gundam 00 Awakening of a Trailblazer

A.D. Anno Domini: Build Fighters
Gundam Build Fighters
Gundam Build Fighters Try
Gundam Build Divers
Gundam Build Divers Re:Rise

Post Disaster (IBO):
Mobile Suit Gundam - IRON-BLOODED ORPHANS

Ad Stella (WFM):
Mobile Suit Gundam - The Witch from Mercury

Regild Century:
Mobile Suit Gundam Reconguista in G

Correct Century:
Turn A Gundam

With the series G-Reco having references to the UC timeline and Turn-A having references to the UC timeline but might also be connected to the FC, AC and AW timelines. Build Fighters timeline being like reality but they fight with the plastic model kits.

The first of these model kits was released back in July of 1980, and making it all the way to the modern age.