COMING SOON

F-4E Phantom II

Berlin, Germany



STARTING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	BIDS PLACED	RESERVE PRICE
—	—	0	No

LOT	AUCTION	BRAND	CATEGORY
#107	#89	McDonnell	Aircraft

BIDDING CLOSES	SELLER
—	C****s

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DESCRIPTION

Collector’s note: This fighter jet has been featured on CollectAirs as a special showcase piece to spark interest and celebrate the fascination of aviation history. It is not presented as a standard active sales listing. For verified aircraft opportunities, please browse our available listings or contact the CollectAirs team.

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is one of the most legendary jet fighters of the Cold War era — a two-seat, twin-engine, all-weather fighter-bomber with a reputation built on power, speed, endurance, and unmistakable presence.

Developed from the wider Phantom II family, the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II became especially significant because it introduced a built-in 20 mm M61A1 Vulcan cannon and improved General Electric J79-GE-17 engines. For collectors, aviation museums, defense-history institutions, and serious aircraft enthusiasts, it represents the thunderous peak of analog supersonic aviation .

For buyers searching for a classic military jet , Cold War fighter aircraft , supersonic collector aircraft , two-seat jet fighter , warbird jet , or museum-grade aviation artifact , the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is one of the most recognizable names in aviation history.

Quick Facts

Details

Aircraft type

Two-seat twin-engine supersonic fighter-bomber

Manufacturer

McDonnell Douglas

Model focus

F-4E specification

Crew

2: pilot and weapons systems officer / rear cockpit operator

Engines

2 × General Electric J79-GE-17 turbojets

Thrust

Approx. 17,900 lbf each with afterburner

Maximum speed

Approx. Mach 2.2 / 1,470–1,485 mph

Signature feature

Internal 20 mm M61A1 Vulcan cannon

Collector appeal

Cold War icon, Vietnam-era history, massive ramp presence, museum-grade significance

Key Takeaway: The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is not a casual aircraft purchase — it is a historic supersonic monument in aircraft form . For the right buyer, it offers extraordinary provenance, visual drama, and a direct connection to one of the most important fighter programs of the 20th century.

Powerplant, Systems & Technical Highlights

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is powered by two General Electric J79-GE-17 afterburning turbojet engines , each producing approximately 17,900 lbf of thrust with afterburner . This twin-J79 configuration gives the aircraft the raw acceleration, climb performance, and unmistakable sound that made the Phantom famous around the world.

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II was built as a serious combat aircraft, but for CollectAirs buyers its value is primarily historical, collectible, institutional, and display-focused. Any civilian sale, restoration, ferry, import, or display use would require careful legal, export-control, demilitarization, documentation, and airworthiness review.

Technical highlights include:

- Powerplant: 2 × General Electric J79-GE-17 afterburning turbojet engines
- Crew: 2
- Maximum speed: Approx. Mach 2.2
- Range: commonly referenced around 1,400 nautical miles ferry range or up to 1,885 miles , depending on mission profile and fuel configuration
- Historical role: Fighter-bomber, interceptor, strike aircraft, air-superiority platform, and demonstration aircraft

What makes the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II technically special? It combines enormous thrust, two-crew mission design, high-speed performance, and a rugged combat airframe with one of the most recognizable profiles in military aviation.

Buyer Perspective

Strengths

Considerations

Historical importance

Exceptional Cold War and Vietnam-era significance

Requires careful provenance and service-history verification

Performance identity

Mach 2-class supersonic fighter heritage

Civilian operation is highly specialized and may be impractical or restricted

Collectability

Global recognition and museum-level appeal

Documentation, demilitarization status, and legal compliance are critical

Display value

Massive ramp presence and iconic silhouette

Storage, transport, and maintenance planning require serious infrastructure

Technical appeal

Twin J79 engines and analog fighter systems

Complex systems demand specialist knowledge

For buyers asking, “Is the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II a practical private aircraft?” the honest answer is no for most owners. It is best understood as a historically important collector jet, museum centerpiece, restoration candidate, or institutional display aircraft rather than a conventional private aircraft.

Exterior & Cockpit

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II has one of the most commanding shapes in jet aviation. Its large intakes, swept wings, elevated rear cockpit, broad fuselage, and aggressive nose profile create the unmistakable look of Cold War power projected through aluminum, titanium, smoke, and noise .

Visually, the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is not elegant in a delicate sense — it is purposeful, muscular, and unforgettable. The aircraft’s scale alone makes it a centerpiece for any aviation museum, private collection, historic hangar, restoration facility, or static display.

Exterior highlights include:

- Twin-engine supersonic fighter layout
- Large side-mounted air intakes
- Swept-wing design with classic Phantom proportions
- Two-seat tandem cockpit
- Long nose profile associated with radar and fire-control systems
- Internal gun fairing under the nose , a defining F-4E feature
- Heavy-duty landing gear and robust military airframe structure
- Exceptional display value for museums, air parks, aviation events, and collector facilities

The cockpit of the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II reflects its era: analog, dense, mission-focused, and built for a two-person crew. The forward cockpit was designed around the pilot’s flight and weapons-management workload, while the rear cockpit supported radar, navigation, and mission systems.

Cockpit highlights include:

- Two-seat tandem crew layout
- Pilot forward cockpit
- Rear cockpit for weapons systems / radar operation
- Analog military instrumentation
- High workload, mission-driven cockpit design
- Historically significant Cold War avionics environment
- Strong educational value for museums and aviation-history exhibits

The Perfect Airplane For

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is perfect for buyers who are not simply looking for an aircraft, but for a historically significant aviation asset. It is best suited to collectors, museums, aviation foundations, restoration organizations, military-history institutions, and serious enthusiasts with the infrastructure to handle a large supersonic fighter.

Who is the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II best suited for? It is best suited for a buyer who values Cold War aviation history , museum-grade provenance , supersonic fighter design , and iconic military aircraft presence more than private flying practicality.

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is ideal for:

- Aviation museums seeking a major Cold War fighter exhibit
- Military-history collections focused on Vietnam-era and late-20th-century aviation
- Private collectors with hangar space and specialist aircraft support
- Restoration organizations preserving historically significant jet aircraft
- Air park and static display operators
- Film, media, and exhibition projects requiring an instantly recognizable fighter aircraft
- Aviation foundations building educational programs around jet-age technology
- Collectors of rare military aircraft seeking a high-impact centerpiece

The McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is not ideal for buyers seeking a low-maintenance aircraft, easy ferry logistics, or regular private flying. Its value lies in heritage, scale, engineering drama, and historical gravity .

Buyer Type

Fit Level

Why It Works

Aviation museum

Excellent

Major educational and historical centerpiece

Military aircraft collector

Excellent

Globally recognized Cold War fighter icon

Private owner-pilot

Low

Operation, compliance, support, and cost are highly specialized

Restoration organization

Strong

Significant preservation value if documentation is complete

Static display operator

Excellent

Enormous visual impact and public recognition

Film or media project

Strong

Instantly identifiable military jet profile

General aviation buyer

Low

Not comparable to standard private aircraft ownership

Potential buyer profile:

- You want a museum-grade supersonic fighter aircraft
- You value Cold War and Vietnam-era aviation history
- You understand the importance of demilitarization status and legal documentation
- You have access to specialist maintenance, storage, transport, or display infrastructure
- You care about airframe provenance, service records, serial number history, and restoration quality
- You want an aircraft that creates instant emotional impact before anyone even reads the placard

In short, the McDonnell Douglas F-4E Phantom II is the perfect airplane for a buyer who sees aviation history on a grand scale. It is loud even when silent, powerful even when parked, and unforgettable from every angle — a true collector aircraft for those who understand what the Phantom represents.

SPECIFICATIONS

General Information

Gross Weight	**41,500 lb (18,824 kg)**

Engine & Power Systems

Engine	**2 × General Electric J79-GE-17A**

Airframe & Exterior

Length	**63 ft 0 in (19.2 m)**
Wingspan	**38 ft 5 in (11.7 m)**
Height	**16 ft 5 in (5 m)**

Performance & Specifications

Cruise Speed	**510 kn (580 mph, 940 km/h)**
Range	**1,457 nmi (1,677 mi, 2,699 km)**
Passengers	**2**
Fuel Capacity	**1,994 US gal (1,660 imp gal; 7,550 L)**

PHOTOGRAPHS

6 of 7 photographs reproduced here. The complete gallery is on the listing page.

EXTERIOR




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INTERIOR



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