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Mil Mi-24 Hind Gunship (New Vanguard)



Synopsis

With its distinctive double-cockpit design, the Mi-24 'Hind' is arguably the most recognizable war machine of the Cold War, and has achieved near-legendary status in the annals of military history. The first Soviet helicopter to function as both a gunship and an assault transport, it served extensively in Afghanistan, and is now employed by militaries across the world. Written by an expert on the 'Hind', and drawing on manufacturing and military sources, this book presents the Mi-24 in all of its brutal glory, from design and development to deployment and combat. Also included are a number of color plates showing the distinct paint schemes employed by various nations in a range of theaters and for different armies.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Those of us who like to model things find books like this to be excellent references. Author Alexander Mladenov goes over the development and production of the Hind as well as the different variants ... Illustrator Ian Palmer adds his own art work and profiles to the goodly number of photos of the aircraft in both black and white and in color.”
— Scott Van Aken, Modeling Madness (September 2010)
“Provides a fine survey of another Cold War fighting machine: this being the first Soviet helicopter to function as both a gunship and an assault transport. Its experiences in Afghanistan and its use around the world is documented by an expert on the Hind.”
— The Midwest Book Review (November 2010)

Alexander Mladenov is an internationally renowned expert on Russian and Eastern European aviation topics, from Soviet era developments through to state of the art equipment. He lives and works in Bulgaria.

The Mi-24 was a battlefiend helicopter; it was bigger than equivalent American choppers (such as the Huey). This helicopter could carry up to 8 soldiers and had anti-tank capability. Indeed, the Hind apparently is still used by 60, countries and has shown considerable longevity as a weapon. Its history began in the 1960s, as the Soviet Union looked to develop a "battlefield helicopter." It actually entered service in 1970. The book goes on to describe the variety of Hinds as the helicopter evolved over time. There is also discussion of its use in actual battle, including Afghanistan and elsewhere. Attrition was pretty high in Afghanistan, especially after American-made Stingers (shoulder launched surface to air missiles) were supplied to the Afghan rebels. Very nice--albeit brief--introduction to this heavy duty battlefield helicopter.

Firstly, this is a typical Osprey title in many ways. There are many and very good color plates, photos and illustrations. Osprey does a fine job of making a book that is visually informative and appealing. The author does a credible job of relating the process of design-to-build cycle, the technical aspects of the aircraft, powerplants, the weapons systems that were incorporated into the helicopter as well as the changes made to it over the years. The author makes the reader aware of national militaries that bought the "Hind" in addition to Soviet/client states. He writes of the conflicts in which the MI-24 took part in a very limited fashion. This is where I feel the book fell down. There is very little information on how it performed in combat. The author is able to tell us sorties and loss rates, but very little else. Unlike a number of Osprey weapons titles I have read, there's no "first person" accounts or evaluation of the Hind in battle. Does a big, heavy gunship offer any advantage in combat over the lighter, smaller helicopters that US/NATO countries deploy? Is the bigger MI-24 able to absorb more punishment than, say, an AH-1 Cobra? The author writes in a clear, cogent fashion, but didn't really make it an interesting or fun read. This Osprey title seems very thin at only 48 pages and was difficult to for me to justify paying almost \$20 for it. To me, this book is just okay and gets three stars.

As a Stinger gunner in the 1980s I was trained to respect this awesome helo. Armor protection, a wide spectrum of weapons and even the possibility of airlanding ground troops... it made for a pretty dangerous aircraft. On top of that, the Soviets experiences with Stinger in Afghanistan meant that

you had to plan your shot REALLY carefully. Now on to this book. I liked that it discussed the background on the design process and looked at a Kamov design as a possible competitor (even though the prototype didn't look nearly as capable) and saw a lot of good material discussing the evolution from the "greenhouse" cockpit to the bubbles. Very good material. However, the book seemed to taper off a little towards the end. Osprey books tend to pack a lot of information in a slim volume but this one seemed to fall short a little bit. Nevertheless, a fine book and one that includes some great photos and artwork.

Here in Brazil, I read this good book. This book is about the Mi-24. This Soviet/Russian attack helicopter first flew in 1969, many years before the Apache helicopter and is the most produced and used attack helicopter, in human history. Mi-24 has been involved in dozens of wars and guerrillas, and has seen amazing success, in many climates and all situations. Even Brazil, is now using mi-35, just another name for the modern mi-24. This book has many good things: 1- Its photos are many and all are first class photos. All photos have color. 2- This book has first class shape and paper. 3- The text is very easy to understand. 4- This book was published in 2010 and isn't outdated about the Mi-24. About the text itself, I think that I wanted more text. This book isn't enough long about this subject. As an example of this fact, the role of mi-24 in wars isn't well covered and there's nothing about the Mi-28 and Ka-50 attack helicopters designed to replace the mi-24 and why they couldn't replace the mi-24, even in Russian Army. Such as the ak-47, the Mi-24 is a genius' work. More than 60 countries and organizations are now using the mi-24 and this after almost fifty years Mi-24 first flight, in 1969. About Mi-24 mechanics, the pages 18 and 19 have mechanics, but I wanted more mechanical details about the Mi-24.

Nice book

Good book with some great pics and artwork, with solid info. I only wish it had some first hand operation stories with it

This is an excellent high-level overview of the famous (infamous?) helicopter for anyone who doesn't want to delve too deeply into all the gritty (that means boring) nuts & bolts of the aircraft. Yes I recommend it.

This book is typical Osprey: easily digestible text with just the right amount of technical details as

well as great photos and impressive artwork that will please the modeler and the aviation buff. It does just an OK job covering the HINDs history, however, so check out the somewhat dated but excellent *Mil Mi-24 Hind Attack Helicopter* if you want the most complete historical detail. Much appreciated in this Osprey volume are very up-to-date sections on the Russian's use of the HIND in Afghanistan, Chechnya 1-2, and Georgia as well as broad-brush anecdotes on their combat use by other countries. This book's only real faults are its rather abrupt ending (for a second, I thought I was missing some pages at the end!) and lack of a bibliography. I found the latter most disappointing as I usually like to check out any readily available primary sources.

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