



Introducing F/A-18 Hornet RAAF Pack 2.0 - **77SQN A21-49 70th Anniversary livery**

There are two versions of the livery included:

RAAF_77SQN_A21-49_70 - Standard version

RAAF_77SQN_A21-49_70_NP - 'No Pylon' version - removes the pylon shadows on the underside of the wing, and is designed to be flown clean.

A21-49 appears as it did between January 2012 and February 2013, where it featured at the Australian International Airshow at Avalon in Victoria. In 2011, members from No. 77 SQN were asked to come up with a design to be painted onto an FA-18 Hornet to coincide with the Squadrons 70th Anniversary celebrations. The scheme was designed by 77 SQN personnel, LAC Nicholas Pearsall, CPL Aaron Somerville and SGT Chris Henderson.

The scheme has several key features built around the 77 SQN FS-14062 satin green base. On the vertical stabilisers we see the 77 SQN "grumpy monkey" accompanied by the squadron motto "swift to destroy" with the hornet silhouette. The checkerboard pattern is reflective of the green and white checkerboard pattern seen on earlier 77 SQN schemes, including Gloster Meteor aircraft deployed to Korea (pictured below), as well as Sabre and Mirage III fighters.



On the left side of the nose, there is a placard listing the Battle Honours for 77 SQN, from the Second World War, through to Korea. Less prominent, is the inverted (white) warning signage around the cockpit. It is worth noting that despite the high visibility commemorative paintwork, the majority of the aircraft is still painted in the 77 SQN low visibility scheme, including roundels, and darkened formation lights on the nose. During the lifetime of this scheme, various panels were repainted FS35237 or FS36375, notably around the nose.

Ordered 11/1982. Built as a Block 25, A model Hornet. Delivered 21/09/89. Served with 75 Sqn. Deployed to the Persian Gulf for operations Bastille and Falconer with 75 Sqn (or a composite unit based on 75 Sqn) 08/02/2003-15/05/2003, in 77 Sqn markings. Missions undertaken by RAAF Hornets between 20 March and 2 May 2003 ranged from defensive counter-air (DCA) to close air support (CAS), and strike. Upgraded to HUG Phase 2 - involving the installation of the advanced AN/APG-73 Fire Control Radar and 15C Operational Flight Program (OFP). In Service 77 Sqn 16/06/2006





77 Squadron

The squadron was formed at RAAF Station Pearce, Western Australia, in March 1942 and saw action in the South West Pacific theatre of World War II. It flew P-51 Mustangs and Gloster Meteors in Korea, before switching to Sabres, and then later to the Mirage III. 77 SQN, along with 75, 3, and 2 (OCU) Squadrons fly the F/A-18A Hornet, and are scheduled to convert to the F-35A by 2021.

No. 77 Squadron is located at RAAF Base Williamtown, New South Wales, and controlled by No. 81 Wing, which is part of Air Combat Group. No. 81 Wing maintains three fighter squadrons for offensive and defensive counter-air operations.

Battle Honours:

- World War II: Milne Bay, Morotai, Borneo 1945, New Guinea 1943–1944, Darwin 1942–1943, Dutch New Guinea, New Britain 1943
- Korean War: Korea 1950–1953
- Malayan Emergency and Konfrontasi: Malaya 1948–1960, Malaysia (Confrontation) 1962–1966

Installation

Simply copy the two included folders into the following location. **Note:** you may need to create the folders highlighted in red below. Please ensure the folder names exactly match the red example:

C:\Users\yourname\Saved Games\DCS.openbeta\Liveries\FA-18C_hornet



Airframe information was sourced on Wikipedia for basic squadron information, and the brilliant ADF Serials website: www.adf-gallery.com.au, which contains specific airframe information.

Reference images were sourced from airliners.net, jetphotos.com, adf-gallery.com.au, downunderaviationnews.wordpress.com, commons.wikipedia.org, alert5.com, masm.fr.

There is great information on the Operation Falconer and Bastille deployment at:
http://www.clubhyper.com/reference/opfalconerhornetskb_1a.htm

Thank you to Eagle Dynamics and BelSimTek for raising the bar with their F/A-18C Hornet module, and for providing access to the templates that allowed me to produce these liveries. Also thank you to the DCS community for providing guidance, an open forum, and continued support.

The Hornet entered RAAF service the year I was born, and I have been watching them ever since - what a fantastic thing it must be to fly one - hopefully these liveries get us regular Joe's closer than we've ever been before.

Sincerely,

Hugh Langlands-Bell ("Sheriff")