

BOEING B-52 STRATOFORTRESS

B-52 SERVICE

Manufacturer: The Boeing Airplane Co., Seattle, Washington, USA
(In 1961, became The Boeing Co.)

Model: 464

Designations: B-52; R-16

Name: Stratofortress

First official flight: YB-52 15 Apr 1952

Factory production period: 1951 – 1962

Primary service period: 1954 – present

Last official flight: - -

B-52 VARIANTS

1952	Model 464-67	XB-52	1	
1952	Model 464-67	YB-52	1	Total: 002

1954	Model 464-201-0	B-52A	3	
1955	Model 464-201-3	B-52B	50	
1956	Model 464-201-6	B-52C	35	
1956	Model 464-201-7	B-52D	170	
1957	Model 464-259-7	B-52E	100	
1958	Model 464-260	B-52F	89	Total: 447

1958	Model 464-253	B-52G	193	
1961	Model 464-261	B-52H	102	Total: 295

Total: 744

B-52 PRODUCTION

XB-52

*Prototype strategic heavy bomber,
tandem cockpit, 8 engines, tall tail.
produced 1951 – 1952*

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)
49-230 16248

1 **Total: 001**

YB-52

*Service test model, tandem
cockpit, tail gun.
produced 1952*

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)
49-231 16249

1 **Total: 001**

B-52A

As YB-52, redesigned cockpit, under-wing tanks, refuelling receptacle, cross-wind u/c, engine upgrade.

produced 1954

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)

52-001 / 52-003 16491 / 16493

3 **Total: 003**

B-52B

As B-52A, engine upgrade, increased weights.

produced 1954 – 1956

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)

53-373 / 53-376 16852 / 16855

53-380 / 53-398 16859 / 16877

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RB-52B

*As B-52B, removable bomb-bay reconn. pod, tail cannon. Original designation was **XR-16**.*

52-004 / 52-013 16494 / 16503

52-8710 / 52-8716 16838 / 16844

53-366 / 53-372 16845 / 16851

53-377 / 53-379 16856 / 16858

27 **Total: 050**

B-52C

As B-52B, modified water-injection, larger under-wing tanks.

produced 1955 – 1956

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)

53-399 / 53-408 16878 / 16887

54-2664 / 54-2688 17159 / 17183

35 **Total: 035**

B-52D

As B-52C, provision for reconn. pod removed.

produced 1955 – 1957

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)

55-068 / 55-117 17184 / 17233

56-580 / 56-630 17263 / 17313

101

Boeing Wichita, Kansas (BW)

55-049 / 55-067 464001 / 464019

55-673 / 55-680 464020 / 464027

56-657 / 56-698 464028 / 464069

69 **Total: 170**

B-52E

As B-52D, improved electronic systems.

produced 1957 – 1958

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)

56-631 / 56-656 17314 / 17339

57-014 / 57-029 17408 / 17423

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Boeing Wichita, Kansas (BW)

56-699 / 56-712 464070 / 464083

57-095 / 57-138 464084 / 464127

58 **Total: 100**

B-52F

*As B-52E, engine upgrade,
equipment changes.*

produced 1958 – 1959

Boeing Seattle, Washington (BO)

57-030 / 57-073 17424 / 17467 44

21 additional airframes cancelled.

Boeing Wichita, Kansas (BW)

57-139 / 57-183 464128 / 464172 45 **Total: 089**

45 additional airframes cancelled.

B-52G

*As B-52F, redesigned nose, shorter
tail, unmanned tail gun, smaller
under-wing tanks, various changes.*

***B-52G Phase IV** – 1964, ECM
avionics in extended aft section.*

produced 1958 – 1960

Boeing Wichita, Kansas (BW)

57-6468 / 57-6520 464173 / 464225

58-0158 / 58-0258 464226 / 464326

59-2564 / 59-2602 464327 / 464365 193 **Total: 193**

8 additional airframes cancelled.

B-52H

*As B-52G, turbofan engine upgrade,
tail rotary cannon, avionics upgrade.*

***B-52H Phase IV** – 1964, ECM
avionics in extended aft section.*

produced 1960 – 1962

Boeing Wichita, Kansas (BW)

60-0001 / 60-0062 464366 / 464427

61-0001 / 61-0040 464428 / 464467 102 **Total: 102**

Total: 744

B-52 CONVERSIONS & TRANSFERS

USAF

NB-52A	1	B-52A (52-003), 1958-1968, NASA "Mothership" for X-15 project.
GB-52B	3	B / RB-52B used for ground instructional duties.
NB-52B	1	RB-52B (52-008), 1958-2005, NASA "Mothership" for X-15 project. Retained by NASA as a test-bed aircraft logging over 1000 missions.
JB-52C	2	B-52C, test-bed aircraft, used in development of ECM.
RB-52C	1+	B-52C, reconn. configured "C" variants.
GB-52D	7	B-52D, ground instructional duties.
JB-52D	1	B-52D, test-bed aircraft for Special Weapons Center.
(NB-52D)	1+	Redesignation of JB-52D plus other airframes.
GB-52E	2	B-52E, ground instructional duties.
NB-52E	2	B-52E, test-bed aircraft for research duties. One aircraft used as engine test-bed for C-5 Galaxy in 1968.
GB-52F	3	B-52F, ground instructional duties.
GB-52G	3	B-52G, ground instructional duties.
JB-52G	6+	B-52G, temporary designation for research duties.
XB-52G	1	B-52A, test-bed aircraft for "G" variant features.

JB-52H	5+	B-52H, temporary designation for research duties.
NB-52H	1	B-52H (61-0025), 2002-2008, NASA "Mothership" for research duties.
YB-52H	1	B-52G, temporary conversion to test "H" variant engines.