

When the U.S. Air Force was created in 1947, aircraft markings underwent great change over a short period of time. It took some time for things to shake out and become standardized, but once they did, they remained much the same until recent years when low-viz grey on grey became the norm. During the period of colorful USAF markings, the "USAF" titles on the wings, and from 1956 the "U.S. AIR FORCE" titles on the fuselage appeared in FS 15044 Insignia Blue. Prior to 1956 most large aircraft had much smaller "UNITED STATES AIR FORCE" titles in black.

There were certainly instances, especially of the "USAF" titles, appearing in black, but Tech Orders called for blue, and in many cases the tendency for blue to photograph darker than it appears in real life has led many people to assume black when it was actually blue. The following table is taken from USAF Tech Orders and generally represents what was seen on the aircraft, but as always, there were exceptions to every rule. With a little math, you may be able to adapt some of them to other scales or uses.

Use our fündekals 1/72 and 1/48 U.S. national insignia sheets (post-1947) for insignia matching the correct blue color of these titles.

### U.S. AIR FORCE:

1"	AIM-4 Falcon
6"	T-37A/B, BQM-34 Firebee
8"	HH-43
10"	UH-1
12"	B-26, C-47, C-140, F-4, F-5, F-84, F-89, F-101, F-105, T-33, T-38
13"	F-104
15"	F-86, F-100, T-28
18"	B-29, B-50, B-57, B-58, B-66, C-54, C-123, C-131, HU-16
20"	C-130
21"	C-141, F-102, F-106
24"	B-47, C-118, C-119, C-121
30"	C-97, C-124, C-133, C-135
36"	B-36, B-52

### USAF:

20"	F-5, T-38
22.5"	T-38
25"	F-4, F-101
30"	B-26, B-66, C-140, C-9, C-12, T-43
35"	F-84, F-105
50"	B-57, B-58, C-47, C-130, C-133, C-141, C-5, HU-16
55"	C-135
60"	B-36, B-50, B-52, C-54, C-97, C-118, C-119, C-121, C-123, C-124