

UH72A

Many Missions, One Aircraft



As of August 2019

UH-72A Fleet Figures			
In-service Aircraft	Customers	Operating Countries	Total Flight Hours
442	3	2	600,000

Key Features

- The UH-72A Lakota is a version of the highly successful H145 tw in-engine rotorcraft family with built-in mission capability, most notably in high-and-hot operating conditions. It is FAA IFR certified under the name BK117 C-2.
- The extremely maneuverable UH-72A Lakota represents a major evolution in terms of flight performance, mission capability, flight safety and cost of operations. Fielded as a commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) asset, the helicopter includes the latest in modern technology, delivering proven performance, outstanding operational reliability, and unmatched safety metrics.
- With more than nine configurations available, this economical and versatile helicopter covers a broad spectrum of military missions.
- The UH-72A Lakota is equipped with an advanced glass cockpit with a Vehicle and Engine Management Display (VEMD) that significantly reduces crew load. Its spacious unobstructed cabin, accessible through the side and rear doors, provides unique mission flexibility.
- The UH-72A Lakota can be equipped with advanced military avionics for communications, navigation and flight management systems. The aircraft's High Tail Rotor and Energy Absorbing Landing Gear Skid enhance maneuverability, and provide increased ground clearance and safety.
- The UH-72A Lakota's versatility supports growth for new missions and new requirements that can be integrated into wide range of advanced mission packages.

Main Missions

- Initial Entry Rotary Wing Pilot Training
- Command and Control
- Search and Rescue Operations
- Border Security
- Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC)
- Disaster Response
- Counter Drug Operations
- VIP Transport

Key Dates

- June 30, 2006: UH-72A Lakota competitively awarded to Airbus to fulfill the Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) requirement, replacing OH-58 and UH-1 aircraft.
- December 11 2006: First delivery of UH-72A Lakota to the United States Army.
- June 2007: First production UH-72A Lakota helicopters delivered to the National Training Center (NTC), Fort Irwin, California. U.S. Army Air Ambulance Detachment (USAAAD) became the first operational unit to field the Lakota.
- October 2008: U.S. Navy places order for five Lakota aircraft for training at the Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxent River, Maryland.
- September 2009: U.S. Naval Test Pilot School receives first of five Lakota Aircraft in Maryland.
- 2014: Royal Thai Army acquires six UH-72A Lakota helicopters from Airbus through the U.S. Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program.
- May 10, 2012: The U.S. Army's fleet of UH-72A helicopters accumulated 100,000 flight hours.
- November 2017: Delivery of 400th UH-72A Lakota aircraft to the U.S. Army.
- April 2018: UH-72A Lakota Fleet surpasses 500k Flight Hours.
- March 2018: Army awards \$389 million contract for 51 UH-72A Lakota Aircraft
- In 2018, UH 72A Lakota aircraft from the 1-376th AVN Battalion deployed to Germany. This is the first deployment of the Lakota outside the U.S.
- July 2019: Airbus and U.S Navy celebrates 10th anniversary of the UH-72A Lakota at Naval Test Pilot School.
- Aug 2019: Airbus Delivers 200th UH-72A Lakota to the Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker.

Technical Specifications

- Maximum take-off weight: 7903lbs – Useful load 3953lbs
- Powerplants: 2 Turbomeca ARRIEL1 E2
- Take-off power (per engine) 738 shp
- Usable Fuel Capacity (standard tank) 229 gallons
- Standard seating capacity 1/2 +9
- Cabin Volume: 213.2 cubic feet
- Performance
 - Max speed: 145 knots.
 - Rate of climb at Sea Level (SL): 1,600 fpm
 - Service Ceiling: 13,181 feet.
 - Hover Ceiling In Ground Effect (IGE): 11,300 ft.
 - Hover Ceiling Out of Ground Effect (OGE): 9,000ft.

Range at Sea Level (SL) with standard tank: 370 Nautical Miles