

Boeing Defense, Space & Security
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C-17 Globemaster III

Description and Purpose:

The Boeing C-17 Globemaster III is designed to fulfill military and humanitarian airlift needs well into the 21st century. A high-wing, four-engine, T-tailed aircraft with a rear-loading ramp, the C-17 can carry large combat equipment and troops or humanitarian aid across international distances directly to small austere airfields anywhere in the world.

With a payload of 164,900 pounds, the C-17 can take off from a 7,000-foot airfield, fly 2,400 nautical miles, and land on a small, austere airfield of 3,000 feet or less. The C-17 is equipped with an externally blown flap system that allows a steep, low-speed final approach and low-landing speeds for routine short-field landings.

Customers:

On September 12, 2013, Boeing delivered the U.S. Air Force's 223rd C-17 fulfilling the U.S. Air Force contract. Worldwide, Boeing has delivered 266 C-17s including 43 to eight customers outside the United States.

The Kuwait Air Force ordered and has received two C-17 Globemaster IIIs in 2014. Kuwait is the newest customer in the worldwide C-17 fleet. In 2011 the Indian Air Force ordered 10 C-17s; five were delivered in 2013 with the other five delivered in 2014, fulfilling the production contract. Qatar, the first Middle East customer to order C-17s, received two C-17s in 2009 and exercised options and received two additional C-17s in 2012. In November 2012, the Royal Australian Air Force received its sixth C-17. The United Arab Emirates Air Force and Air Defence received its sixth C-17 in June 2012. In May 2012, the United Kingdom Royal Air Force received an additional C-17, bringing the Royal Air Force fleet to eight. The Royal Canadian Air Force has four C-17s. The 12-nation Strategic Airlift Capability consortium of NATO and Partnership for Peace nations received three C-17s in 2009.

General Characteristics:

Length:	174 feet (53.04 m)
Height at Tail:	55.1 feet (16.79 m)
Wing Span to Wingtips:	169.8 feet (51.74 m)
Maximum Payload:	164,900 lbs. (74,797 kg)
At 4,000 nautical miles:	100,300 lbs. (45,495 kg)



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Range with Payload:

160,000 pounds:	2,420 nautical miles
40,000 pounds (paratroop):	5,610 nautical miles

Cruise Speed: 0.74 – 0.77 Mach

Takeoff Field Length (Max Gross Weight): 7,740 ft. (2,359.15 m)

Landing Field Length:

160,000 lbs of Cargo: 3,000 ft. (914.40 m)

A two-person cockpit crew and one loadmaster operate the C-17, which can be refueled in flight. This cost-effective flight crew complement is made possible through the use of an advanced digital avionics system and advanced cargo systems. In the cargo compartment, the C-17 can carry Army wheeled vehicles in two side-by-side rows. Three combat-ready Stryker infantry-fighting vehicles comprise one deployment load. Similarly, the Army's newest main battle tank, the M-1, can be carried.

The four engines are Pratt & Whitney PW2040 series turbofans, designated as F117-PW-100 by the Air Force, each producing 40,440 pounds of thrust. The engines are equipped with directed-flow thrust reversers capable of deployment in flight. On the ground, a fully loaded aircraft using thrust reversers can back up a 2 percent slope.

Background:

On Dec. 10, 2010, the worldwide C-17 fleet surpassed the 2 million flight-hours milestone and recently surpassed 2.6 million flight hours. The U.S. Air Force declared the first C-17 squadron operational in January 1995, following first flight in 1991. C-17s have been involved in numerous contingency operations, including flying troops and equipment to Operation Joint Endeavor to support peacekeeping in Bosnia, Allied Force Operation in Kosovo, Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During flight-testing at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., C-17s set 33 world records – more than any other airlifter in history – including payload to altitude, time-to-climb and short-takeoff-and-landing marks in which the C-17 took off in less than 1,400 feet, carried a payload of 44,000 pounds to altitude and landed in less than 1,400 feet.

Miscellaneous:

U.S. Air Force C-17s are based at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; the Air National Guard Base at Jackson, Miss.; McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.; March Air Reserve Base, Calif.; Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii; Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska; Altus Air Force Base, Okla.; Dover Air Force Base, Del.; Travis Air Force Base, Calif.; Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; and Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y. The RAF C-17s are based at Brize Norton in the United Kingdom. The Royal Australian Air Force C-17 unit is based at Amberley, in Queensland, Australia. Canadian C-17s are based at Royal Canadian Air Force Base, Trenton, Ontario. The 12-nation Strategic Airlift Capability C-17 fleet is based at Pápa Air Base, Hungary. Qatar's C-17s are assigned to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. The United Arab



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Emirates' C-17s are stationed at Abu Dhabi. The Indian Air Force C-17 is based at Hindon Air Force Station.

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