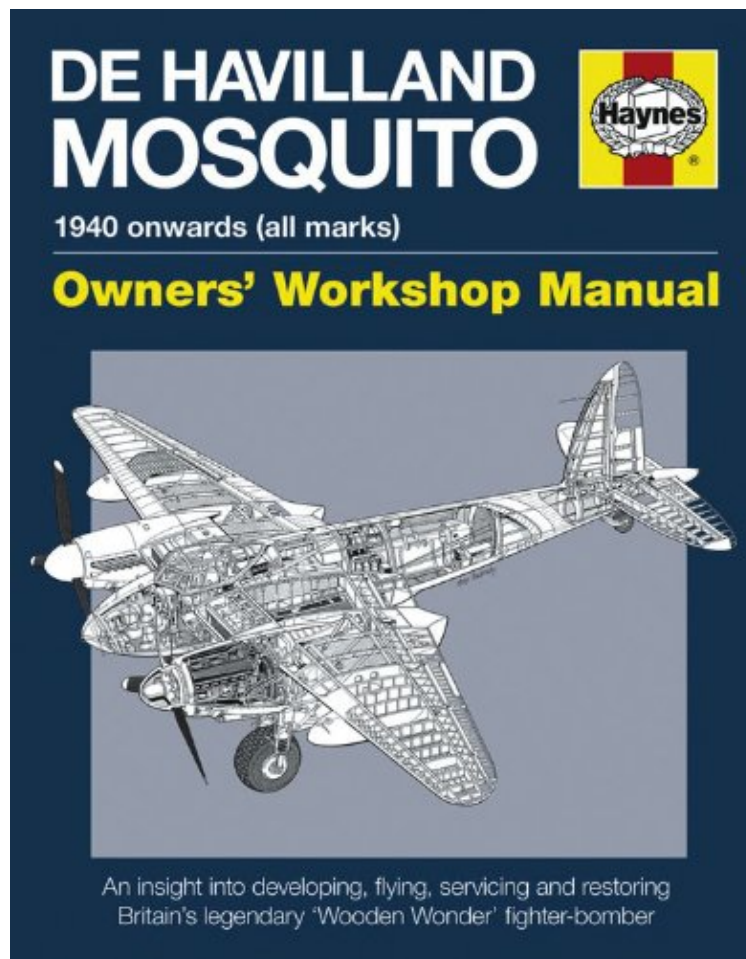


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De Havilland Mosquito: 1940 onwards (all marks) - An insight into developing, flying, servicing and restoring Britain's legendary 'Wooden Wonder' fighter-bomber (Owners' Workshop Manual)

Jonathan Falconer, Brian Rivas
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Jonathan Falconer, Brian Rivas : De Havilland Mosquito: 1940 onwards (all marks) - An insight into developing, flying, servicing and restoring Britain's legendary 'Wooden Wonder' fighter-bomber (Owners' Workshop Manual) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised De Havilland Mosquito: 1940 onwards (all marks) - An insight into developing, flying, servicing and restoring Britain's legendary 'Wooden Wonder' fighter-bomber (Owners' Workshop Manual):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great first Mosquito bookBy FlyboyIf you intend to use this manual to rebuild your full scale Mosquito or to set the valve timing on its twelve cylinder Rolls Royce Merlin engines, pass

this one by. It's not a "workshop manual". Admittedly, I wasn't expecting much when I bought this but, since I have just about every piece of paper having the words "DeHavilland Mosquito", I had to add this to my library. I was pleasantly surprised here. This would be a great "first" Mosquito book and it covers - in decent if not thorough detail - the workings of the aircraft, its history, how it was constructed and there are some nice color photos sprinkled in of restored aircraft. There are a number of BW photos that I have not seen before along with diagrams and schematics and some interesting anecdotal sidebars. This is a respectable effort by Haynes and, all things considered, can you really have too many books on the Mosquito? I think not. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Knowing the Mossie from the inside out :) By Joseph May Most know of the de Havilland Mosquito as the "Wooden Wonder" due to its making of plywood but that is not the why of its wonder. Simply put it was the SR-71 "Blackbird" of its day since it was almost immune to being shot down as it flew higher and faster the opposing aircraft during World War II. Mosquitos flew several reconnaissance missions nearly daily, both high as well as low, gathering photographs or other information. But de Havilland's almost never happened design performed other missions almost equally as well whether those missions were bomber, pathfinder, fighter-bomber or intruder. Falconer and Rivas have produced this book which pierces the myth and derivative hyperbole surrounding what is perhaps World War II's premier aircraft — an aircraft which saw a low combat loss rate but did not have as many examples survive long after the war, unlike its metal-made brethren. The authors note that the Mosquito's design began with the catching of a pike (the fish) by no other than Winston Churchill. The pike was mounted on the wall of a loo as a distraction for men who found themselves in a pondering position. One such was de Havilland designer and thought the model a fast aircraft after the lines of the sleek and quick fish. The designers then went against current thinking in two significant departures: the purposeful omission of defensive armament (and its parasitic drag as well as weight penalties) and being built of wood (actually six differing woods). The British Air Ministry was less than impressed though calculations showed the aircraft would indeed be much faster than fighters of the day. De Havilland persevered, as we know, but how and why was the Mosquito so successful? The authors have written this definitive book explaining just that — from the Canadian Spruce made wing spars, to the nearly 30,000 brass screws in the wing assembly, to the fuselage made in separate halves (easing installation of instruments, hydraulics and cables), to the rigid adherence to streamlining with the pilot sitting just ahead and to the left of the second position (the bombardier or radar operator depending upon the aircraft version) in order to save a few inches of fuselage width (remember Churchill's pike!). The detail of research is impressive — such as the engine nacelle extensions solving the original tailplane buffeting difficulty as well as fighter versions have a flat windscreen as compared to a split windscreen on all other versions. There is so much more with special sections devoted to descriptions and manufactured of all the major assemblies. So much is learned from the authors' insights. Previously mentioned was the wooden construction which is so well known but what is less known, unless reading this book, is that men and women in seemingly nonmilitary manufacturing industries were employed in making this machine designed for war. Coachmakers as well as furniture makers became vital in Britain's war effort making them a force multiplier instead of redundant. Falconer and Rivas go into detail regarding the variety of companies as well as skills used. The Mosquito's history is also well illustrated including specific missions to underscore the points requiring underscore. The high altitude missions to incredibly precise low level strike missions are well described. Indeed, reading of the extremely low level missions arriving on time and on target delivering their ordinance would have today's attack pilots with smart bombs admiring their work. The authors do not write with bias as they describe the Mosquito's drawbacks in as much detail as what is lauded. The photos range from the technically bland (though important) to the incredible (showing feats of extreme airmanship) and the technical perspective drawings by Mike Badrocke show what photos can never show. This book covers the Mosquito technically and historically — compellingly defending the argument that the de Havilland Mosquito was the most successful multi-role aircraft of World War II and flown by fantastically brave airmen on extraordinarily trying missions of extreme altitude or rooftop strikes. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. **WOODEN WONDER AIRCRAFT !** By AC CRAIG CASEY Incredible detail , coupled with a lot of incredible PICTURES of this Wooden Aircraft . A lot of what I had not seen before !

Nicknamed the 'wooden wonder' , the de Havilland Mosquito was one of the most versatile and successful combat aircraft of the Second World War. Offering insights into the design, construction and operational career of the iconic Mossie, this manual gets under the aircraft's birch and balsa skin to examine its anatomy and describe the painstaking restoration to flight by Avspecs (New Zealand) of Jerry Yagen's FB26 KA114 and of Victoria Air Maintenance's B35 VR796 in British Columbia, Canada.

About the Author Jonathan Falconer is the author of more than 30 books on aspects of aviation and military history, including *Stirling at War*, *Stirling Wings* and *Stirling in Combat*, and co-author (with Brian Rivas) of the *Haynes de Havilland Mosquito Manual*. He lives in Wiltshire. Brian Rivas worked initially as a newspaper journalist on the *Basingstoke Gazette* before a career change to the hi-fi business; he lives in Somerset.