

# Russia has revealed: 8 photos of the Tu-160M2 heavy bomber

Here are 8 photos of the newly released Tu-160M2 super bomber. Please take a look at it!

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**The Tu-160M2** , the latest upgraded version of the Soviet-made **Tu-160** legendary aircraft, remains the backbone of the Russian strategic bomber force for many years to come.

Here are **8 photos of the newly released Tu-160M2 super bomber** . Please take a look at it!



Tu-160M2 super heavy bomber. Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation

According to *The Drive* , Russia unveiled the new **Tu-160M2 Blackjack** heavy bomber last Thursday - upgraded from the legendary Tu-160M ??and Tu-160 versions.

**Tupolev Tu-160M2** is the prototype of the new generation of the famous Tu-160 series that the first generation was built in the 1980s before the collapse of the Soviet Union. Russia currently operates 16 Tu-160s of this type as long-range cruise missiles, playing an important role in Moscow's core strategic bomber force.

' *It seems that this is an improved version of the Soviet-made Tu-160 legendary aircraft, the Tu-160M2 is still a new type of bomber and just like the name itself,* ' according to *The newspaper. Aviationist* said.

The new **Tu-160M2 Blackjack** heavy bomber is expected to make its first flight in 2018 and will continue to be mass-produced in 2021.

The operability of the Tu-160M2 Blackjack has not been revealed yet - but this is what we know to date:

**Russia announced the new generation "White Swan" Tu-160M2 - Blackjack code name given by NATO - last Thursday.**



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation

**This is an upgraded version of the legendary Tu-160M ??series, which joined Russian service in 2014.**



Image source: REUTERS / Host Photo Agency / RIA Novosti

**The first Tu-160 model entered the Soviet Union in 1987.**



Photo source: AP Photo

**The Tu-160 is often compared to the American B-1B Lancer.**



Photo source: Staff Sgt. Bennie J. Davis III / USAF / Handout via REUTERS

**The operability of the Tu-160M2 Blackjack has not been revealed yet, although more or less retaining the same frame as the old Soviet era, the Tu-160M2 is actually a new aircraft.**



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation

In 2015, the Russian media announced that the new Blackjack will bring 60% of the same overall score as the old version.

In addition, you can find a complete list of the specifications of the Tu-160 here and the amendments of the Tu-160M ??here.

**The Tu-160M2 will be equipped with completely new execution systems and use the upgraded turbofan engine from the current NK-32 Kuznetsov engine. Modernized engines are more fuel efficient and reliable than previous engines.**



Photo source: Rostec

" *The new engine of the NK-32 02 series, expected to be much more fuel-efficient because the NK-32 engine previously had many problems ,*" **Kofman** said .

The original engine on the Tu-160 NK-32 - is a powerful engine, providing thrust of 55,000 lbs. Besides, the B-1B Lancer only generates about 31,000 pounds of thrust.

According to Russian media, the **Tu-160M2** version is expected to be equipped with an active electronic phase array radar system. It will also have a new fire control system that further enhances the effectiveness of Kh-101 long-range cruise missiles and Kh-102 ( *maximum range of 5,500km - the world's furthest* ).

**It will also have new electronic systems, sensors and communication devices.**



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation

**The Tu-160M2 is expected to be equipped with an active electronic phase array radar system.**



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation  
**It may also be equipped with a new KRET defense.**



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation  
New defenses can be combined with any better infrared countermeasures, solid state lasers or electromagnetic beams that fire missiles.

Moreover, the **Tu-160M2** will also be equipped with a modern electronic warfare system, effectively dealing with threats coming from ground-based anti-aircraft missiles or aircraft.

The new Tu-160M2 may be used for the same type of mission as the old Tu-160M ??version and carries the same **Kh-101 cruise missile** and **Kh-102 core**. Both the Kh-101 and Kh-102 are designed to penetrate enemy airspace with dense defensive systems.



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation

**Russia is planning to buy about 50 new Tu-160M2 variants. Most likely, the current 16 Tu-160 will also be upgraded to the standard version.**



Photo source: United Aircraft Corporation

**Below is the new video of Tu-160M2 Blackjack released:**

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