



BOMBER HALL

Follow the development of the bomber from its first appearance in World War I to the highly sophisticated machines of today. You can also find out about the achievements of RAF Bomber Command and the US Army Air Forces in World War II. This hall is, in part, a Memorial to the 131,000 young men who died during the combined bombing offensive- after the defeats in Europe, the only way the allies could carry the fight back to Hitler's Germany.

WORLD WAR TWO

Start by the Lancaster. The Lancaster is one of the most prominent and famous of the aircraft displayed in this hall. It played an important role in the bombing campaigns of World War II.

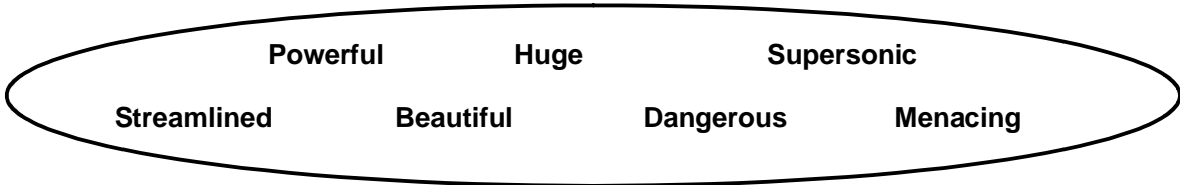
Who was the designer?**Roy Chadwick**.....

How many crew members were there? ...**7**.....

What was the average age of the crew in a Bomber like this?

18 20 22 24

Underline the words which describe the Lancaster



Can you think of any others?

.....

Nearby is the wreckage of another 4 engine bomber.

What type is it? ..**Halifax**.....

It was shot down in April 1942 while taking part in an important raid.

What was the target? ...**Tirpitz**.....

Most aeroplanes in the museum have been restored to the condition they would have been in when new, but this one is shown as found. What do you think of this? Does the wreck of an aeroplane teach us anything about World War Two?

The horror and casualties of war etc etc

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BOMBER HALL DISCOVERY SHEET

THE DAMBUSTERS RAID

Nearby you will find the **Dambusters** area. Go to the cinema area and watch the film to find out all about some of the more famous operations of **Bomber Command**. The film lasts approximately 10 minutes.

What was the **Dambusters**' operation called? ..**Operation Chastise**

Who designed the special bombs they used? **Barnes Wallace**

What did these bombs do? **Bounced on water , then sunk down to explodes near to the dams as possible**

Why did the RAF want to destroy the dams? **To seriously cripple the German war effort**

Name one of the dams **Mohne**

Who led 617 squadron on the raid? **Guy Gibson**

THE AMERICAN AIR FORCE DURING WORLD WAR TWO

Two of the more famous aircraft used during World War II are the **Liberator (B24)** and The **Flying Fortress (B17)**. We have both here at the museum.
Have a look at the Flying fortress

Do you think the aeroplane is camouflaged? YES NO

Why do you think this is? **USA stopped using camouflage by 1944**.....
.....

Why was it called the Flying Fortress? **Very heavily armoured and heavily armed**.....
.....

Nearby is a memorial stone which commemorates Americans who served in Great Britain as members of **the Eighth Air Force**

What are the 5 aircraft illustrated on the Memorial?

1 **Flying Fortress** 2 **Liberator** 3 **Thunderbolt**

4 **Mustang** 5 **Lightning**

BOMBER HALL DISCOVERY SHEET

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOMBER AIRCRAFT

In **Bomber Hall** we can see how the bomber aircraft has progressed throughout the twentieth century.

Opposite the **Liberator** there is a series of paintings charting the progress of the bomber. The pictures were painted by John Young, a founder member of the Guild of Aviation Artists.

Compare the Sopwith **Tabloid** (the first painting) with the Vickers **Valiant** (the last painting).

What are the main differences?

The **Tabloid** is made from wood whilst the **Valiant** is made from metal. The **Tabloid** has two wings on each side and is called a biplane whilst the **Valiant** has only one and is called a monoplane. The **Valiant** is much more streamlined than the **Tabloid**.

We have examples of the bombers during various stages of its development.

Try finding them so that you can fill in the information on the table.

You will have seen the **Lancaster** already. You will find the other two aircraft near the back of the hall. Just follow the carpet to the right to find the **BE2b** and left to find the Avro **Vulcan** (in the far left corner).

	BE2b	Lancaster	Vulcan
Years of Service	1914- 1919	1941- 1954	1956- 1984
Maximum Speed	105 km/ hour	462 km/ hour	1000 km/ hour
Airframe Material	Wood	Metal	Metal
Skin Material	Fabric	Metal	Metal
No of Wings	2	1	1
No of Crew	2	7	5

BOMBER HALL DISCOVERY SHEET

Many of the Aircraft in this hall have special markings on them to show, for example, the nickname of those who flew in them.



What kind of marking would you use?

Design a marking that represents you or your friends and family

A large, empty rectangular area with rounded corners, intended for drawing a marking.