The Rolls-Royce Merlin engine was used in many of the famous fighter aircraft during the Second World War – most notably, the Supermarine Spitfire and Hawker Hurricane.

The early Merlin engines had issues with the carburettor – this resulted in the engines cutting out during combat which could prove a real issue for even the most skilled of pilots. However, an engineer by the name of Beatrice Shilling invented a restrictor that prevented the engines from stalling, and as such, improved the engine. Used throughout the Battle of Britain, this feat of engineering meant that the RAF’s fighter aircraft could continue to fight off the German Luftwaffe.

Put your engineering skills to the test and print out the templates and follow the instructions to build a replica of a Merlin engine!

You will need:

- Printed templates
- Scissors
- Glue stick

Note: ask for an adults help when using scissors.

Share your finished Merlin engine with us on social media!

@rafmuseum
HOW DO I MAKE IT?

1. Cut-out all the 4 pieces.

2. Fold all the dotted lines to match the pictures of the finished model.

3. Glue A over B.

4. Glue C over D.

5. Glue E over F.

6. Glue G over H.

7. Glue I over J.

8. Glue K over L.

9. Glue M over N.

10. Glue O down into C.

11. Glue P over Q and band it down into G.

12. Glue R over S and band it down into E.

13. Bend the SHAFT in half and glue T over U.

14. Glue V over W.

15. Glue X over Y.

WAR. THE MERLIN III WAS FITTED TO THE SPITFIRE MARK I.

WIN THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN AND PERHAPS, EVEN THE SECOND WORLD WAR WITH BF 109, BUT ALSO THE MOSQUITOES AND MANY OTHER AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING THE AMERICAN MUSTANG.

MERLINS WERE NOT ONLY USED IN ALL SPITFIRE'S DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, BUT ALSO IN POSTWAR USE.