

AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM

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AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM Latest News

The recent approval by the United States to sell AIM-120C-8 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAMs) to Turkey has triggered serious concerns in India.

About AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM

- AIM-120C-8 **Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile** (AMRAAM) is a highly advanced **beyond-visual-range air-to-air missile** (BVRAAM) with **surface-to-air missile (SAM) capabilities**.
- It was **developed by Raytheon Technologies**, one of the leading **United States** defense contractors.
- Developed to engage and **destroy enemy aircraft at extended ranges**, the AIM-120 has become a cornerstone of modern air combat.

AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM Features

- **Designed for deployment from fighter aircraft** such as the F-16, F-15, F/A-18, and newer platforms like the F-35, the missile has a **range exceeding 160 kilometers** under optimal launch conditions.

- Measuring approximately 12 feet in length with a diameter of seven inches, the missile weighs around 356 pounds and is powered by a solid-fuel rocket motor capable of propelling it to **speeds exceeding Mach 4**, or roughly 3,000 miles per hour.
- The missile's **guidance system** is a sophisticated **blend of active radar, inertial navigation, and GPS correction**, enabling it to operate independently after launch, a feature known as **"fire-and-forget."**
- It also incorporates a **two-way data link**, which **allows real-time updates to the missile's trajectory**, enhancing its accuracy against maneuvering targets.
- Its active radar seeker is designed to detect stealthy aircraft with low radar cross-sections, while advanced electronic countermeasures ensure resilience against jamming attempts.
- The missile carries an 18.1-kilogram **high-explosive blast fragmentation warhead**, optimized for destroying enemy aircraft and drones with a proximity fuse that triggers at the optimal moment.
- It has the **ability to engage multiple targets** beyond visual range, even in contested electronic environments.

AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM FAQs

Q1. What does AMRAAM stand for?

Ans. Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile

Q2. Who developed the AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM?

Ans. It was developed by Raytheon Technologies, one of the leading United States defense contractors.

Q3. What is the approximate range of the AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM under optimal launch conditions?

Ans. Over 160 kilometers

Source: [FP](#)

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