**Warbird Restored WWII Craft**

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*This article is about vintage military aircraft. For the comic book superhero, see [Ms. Marvel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ms._Marvel). For Romulan starships in* Star Trek*, see* [*D'deridex-class warbird*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/D%27deridex-class_warbird)*.*



*Critical Mass*, a modified Sea Fury air racer.



A SBD-5 Dauntless Dive Bomber is salvaged from the depths of Lake Michigan.



The same aircraft after restoration.

**Warbird** is a term used to describe vintage [military aircraft](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_aircraft). Although the term originally implied piston driven aircraft from the [World War II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II) era, it is now often extended to include all military aircraft, including jet powered aircraft, that are no longer in military service. Vintage jet aircraft in flyable condition, however, are much rarer due to technical complexity.

Sometimes, the term "warbird" also applies to newly built replicas and reproductions of vintage aircraft, such as [Allison V-1710](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allison_V-1710) powered [Yak-9s](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yak-9) from [Yakovlev](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yakovlev), [Me 262s](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Me_262) built by the [Me 262 Project](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Me_262_Project) and [FW 190s](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FW_190) by Flug Werk, and can, for earlier eras when military aircraft design was of a less complex nature, even include any one of a large number of different World War I and later military aircraft designs, up through the late 1930s in origin, sometimes powered by vintage engines from the era of the aircraft design being flown.

[Restored warbirds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vintage_warbird_restoration) are a frequent attraction at [airshows](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airshow). Highly modified as well as "stock" warbirds can also frequently be seen at [air races](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_race), since late-war fighter planes are among the fastest propeller-driven planes ever built. Some of the most popular warbirds for races are the [P-51 Mustang](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P-51_Mustang), the [Hawker Sea Fury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawker_Sea_Fury), the [F8F Bearcat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/F8F_Bearcat), and the [T-6 Texan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T-6_Texan).

**Major operators of historic aircraft**

* [Alpine Fighter Collection](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Zealand_Fighter_Pilots_Museum)
* [Amicale Jean-Baptiste Salis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Fert%C3%A9-Alais_air_show)
* [Battle of Britain Memorial Flight](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Britain_Memorial_Flight)
* [Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Berlin_Airlift_Historical_Foundation&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Warplane_Heritage_Museum)
* [Collings Foundation](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Collings_Foundation&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Commemorative Air Force](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commemorative_Air_Force) (formerly *Confederate Air Force*)
* [Fantasy of Flight](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fantasy_of_Flight)
* [Lone Star Flight Museum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lone_Star_Flight_Museum)
* [Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Rhinebeck_Aerodrome)
* [Shuttleworth Collection](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuttleworth_Collection)
* [Temora Aviation Museum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temora_Aviation_Museum)
* [Willy Messerschmitt Foundation](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Willy_Messerschmitt_Foundation&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Yankee Air Force](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yankee_Air_Force)

**See also**

* Media related to [Warbirds](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Warbirds) at [Wikimedia Commons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikimedia_Commons)
* [Vintage warbird restoration](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vintage_warbird_restoration)
* [Category:Lists of surviving aircraft](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Lists_of_surviving_aircraft)

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