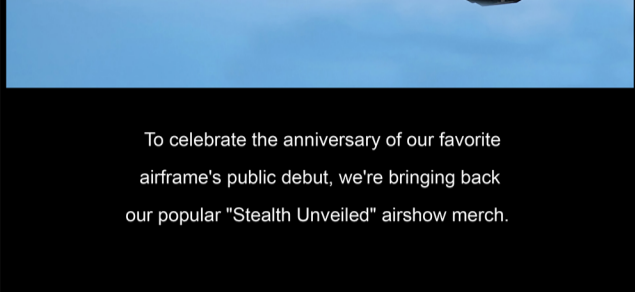




KOMMANDOSTORE

33 years ago, a mysterious and strikingly beautiful aircraft touched down on a dusty airfield in the Nevada desert...

THE F-117 NIGHTHAWK



To celebrate the anniversary of our favorite airframe's public debut, we're bringing back our popular "Stealth Unveiled" airshow merch.

These days 'low observable' technology is the talk of the town. But even the newest kids on the block owe something to the Nighthawk, and that incredible legacy is worth celebrating.

Skunk Works Spec 🦨



Our 'airshow tee' is a *painstaking* replica of the shirts sold at Nellis AFB during the original 1992 'Stealth Unveiled' event.

To get the striking vintage design *just right* we worked backwards from original examples to perfectly match every detail.

From the intricate speckles and halftones to the 1970s era Apple 2 fonts featured on the shirts.



We also went the extra mile to pick the right garment for the design. For an authentic 90s fit and feel, we chose the Hanes "Beefy-T"—a throwback shirt with a relaxed cut and a 'beefy' 6.1oz cotton fabric.

Last year, we also introduced a hoodie in the same fashion. It's a relaxed fit, pullover style hoodie from Hanes to capture that same vintage feel.

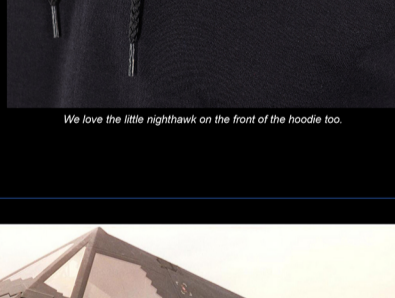


The blanks are one thing, but our prints are quality with a capital 'Q'.

All of our Nighthawk merch is printed by one of the best screen printers in the US. They use custom blended inks, and super high-quality screens for excellent detail and alignment.

Some of our employees are still wearing tees from our first print run in July 2018, and despite *hundreds* of wash cycles they still look great. It's amazing what a little extra attention can do for long term quality and durability.

Wear It Forever ❤️



We love the little nighthawk on the front of the hoodie too.



Since its public reveal, the Nighthawk served with quiet distinction through the latter half of the Cold War, the first Gulf War, a kerfuffle in Yugoslavia, and the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Despite an official "retirement" in '08, the F-117 still gets spotted in the skies over Nevada where it is rumored to serve as an 'aggressor aircraft', helping to train pilots

Like we mentioned earlier, this is a *once a year thing*. But unlike you and your *ball and chain's* anniversary it comes with some pretty cool merch (and anime women).

You can admire the airframe's angles (and probably upset your spouse) on today's nighthawk'd out version of our site 🗡️

Own The Night 🌙

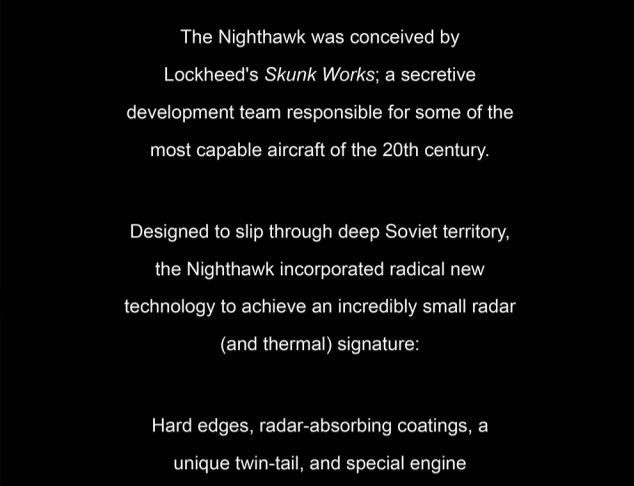
OR, if you want to understand more about why we love lockheed's iconic *flying triangle of doom* so much, keep reading...

WHAT'S THE F-117?

With its cyberpunk-y profile and stunning angles, The F-117 "Nighthawk" instantly captured the public's imagination (and birthed a lot of UFO stories.)

A radical departure from the retro-aerodynamic curves of traditional aircraft design, the F-117's odd shape serves a singular purpose.

STEALTH.

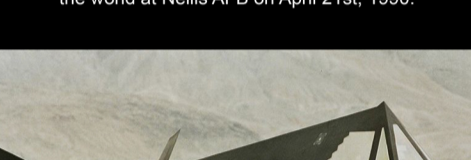


*"I don't care what the hell it looks like, I'll get that ugly son of a b**ch to fly!" - Chief Skunk Works aerodynamicist Dick Cantrell, commenting on the Have Blue HB1001 Stealth prototype shown above.*

The Nighthawk was conceived by Lockheed's *Skunk Works*; a secretive development team responsible for some of the most capable aircraft of the 20th century.

Designed to slip through deep Soviet territory, the Nighthawk incorporated radical new technology to achieve an incredibly small radar (and thermal) signature:

Hard edges, radar-absorbing coatings, a unique twin-tail, and special engine cowlings reduced the aircraft to the size of a sparrow on Soviet radar.



The Nighthawk was deemed fully operational in the early 80s, and for nearly a decade her pilots and crew flew night sorties in complete secrecy.*

**a LOT of air to air refueling allowed the Nighthawk to operate globally from a handful of bases*

Seven years later, the USAF and the Department of Defense decided the Nighthawk would work better as a deterrent if the world knew about it.

Plans were made to reveal the aircraft to the world at Nellis AFB on April 21st, 1990.



On a hot spring day, a flight of two F-117s landed in front of thousands of cheering spectators, kicking off one of the most memorable air shows in US history.

After opening the show, the F-117s sat quietly on the tarmac surrounded by an entourage of armed airmen and curious onlookers.

Although little was said about the new "stealth fighters" — blimps, fighter jets, and mock dog fights continued the day's entertainment in style.



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Despite an official "retirement" in '08, the F-117 still gets spotted in the skies over Nevada where it is rumored to serve as an 'aggressor aircraft', helping to train pilots against next generation threats.*

**it's been seen in Syria too, which seems to indicate it's still in a few theaters as well*

Even with talks of 'spending prioritization' and 'doctrinal appropriateness', the Nighthawk has endured, in its own special way, for nearly 40 years.

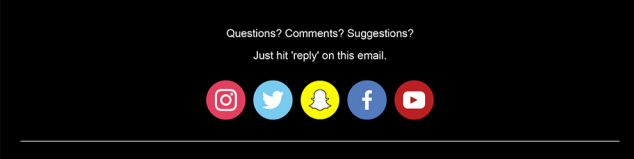


Pictured, two nighthawks flying for a "retirement ceremony" in '08. If an American flag painted on the belly of a nuclear-weapons-capable stealth fighter isn't patriotic, we don't know what is.

Everything about the F-117 that made it great in the 80s, still captivates over 30 years later.

It's razor-sharp edges, futuristic technology, and its family tree of stealthy cousins (foreign and domestic).

We hope to see many more years of this little triangular bird up in the sky...



Blink, and you'd probably miss it...

We hope you'll love your nighthawk merch as much as we loved making it.

Happy Anniversary ♡

WE DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS RETIRED 🤖

Ok, maybe we went too far with the anime women.

rfhh4p45sps41.jpg
479 KB JPG

F35 belly is like a tomboy with visible abs. hnnnng

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?
Just hit 'reply' on this email.

Want to dump us and make Ivan sob quietly in his parking spot before work?
[Unsubscribe](#) *

**Alternatively, you can bug me directly and tell me what you don't like.*

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