



## Russian Armed Forces Purchasing New Airframes



Su-34.

Source: Vitaly Kuzmin, [https://photos.smugmug.com/Military/Su-34-Grey/i-7q42HtH/0/9b2d432b/X2/IMG\\_3631-X2.jpg](https://photos.smugmug.com/Military/Su-34-Grey/i-7q42HtH/0/9b2d432b/X2/IMG_3631-X2.jpg), CC BY-NC-ND 4.0

**OE Watch Commentary:** According to the accompanying excerpted article from *RIA Novosti*, the Russian Armed Forces will purchase 423 helicopters before 2027. A related article from *Izvestia* discusses the purchase of 76 Su-34Ms, a twin-engine, twin-seat, all-weather fighter-bomber, that was developed for the Soviet Air Force, but was only first fielded in 2014. Although it appears Russia will be receiving at least 500 new aircraft before 2027, it was unclear what proportion of this number would truly be ‘new’ aircraft, and what proportion of Mi-28N/Su-34s would be overhauled to the new Mi-28NM/Su-34M standard. **End OE Watch Commentary (Bartles)**

***“The Russian Defense Ministry has agreed a contract to buy 76 new Sukhoi Su-34 strike aircraft by 2027.”***

***“The Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation plans to acquire 423 modern helicopters, including 96 Mi-28NM attack helicopters, before 2027.”***

***-Deputy Minister of Defense Aleksey Krivoruchko***

**Source:** “Минобороны до 2027 года планирует получить 423 современных вертолета (The Ministry of Defense Plans to Acquire 423 Modern Helicopters before 2027),” *RIA Novosti* Online, 3 February 2020. <https://ria.ru/20200203/1564179802.html>

*The Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation plans to acquire 423 modern helicopters, including 96 Mi-28NM attack helicopters, before 2027, reported Deputy Minister of Defense Aleksey Krivoruchko. “The ‘Helicopters of Russia’ holding company transferred 112 helicopters to the troops. Of these 58 were delivered ahead of schedule. Before 2027 the Ministry of Defense plans to acquire a total of 423 modern helicopters, including 96 Mi-28NM attack helicopters, as provided for in the GPV-2027 (editors’ note: State Armaments Program Extending to 2027)” he said in an article published in the journal “Radio Electronic Technologies.”*

*Krivoruchko previously reported that the military establishment had ordered 98 Mi-28NM helicopters, and two helicopters of the setup batch had already been delivered to the Ministry of Defense. Andrey Boginskiy, General Director of “Vertolety Rossii” stated that 18 craft would be delivered before 2021 and thereafter 16 a year will be delivered.*

*The Mi-28NM is a highly effective, all-weather new-generation attack helicopter. The combat craft is able to perform a broad spectrum of tasks, including the destruction of armored equipment, attacking low-flying, low-speed air targets, aerial reconnaissance, and target designation for other helicopters and aircraft.*

**Source:** “Армия получит 76 модернизированных Су-34 (Army to Receive 76 Modernized Su-34s),” *Izvestia* Online, 28 May 2020. <https://iz.ru/1017029/2020-05-28/armiia-poluchit-76-modernizirovannykh-su-34>

*The Russian Defence Ministry has agreed a contract to buy 76 new Sukhoi Su-34 strike aircraft by 2027, Izvestia daily reported on 28 May. Citing unnamed sources in the Defence Ministry and defence industry, Izvestia said that while the contract has not yet been signed, industry enterprises are already buying components to build the aircraft.*

*The aircraft, which will be of an upgraded standard to the baseline Su-34, will be delivered at a rate of between eight and 14 a year, the report said. The first components will be delivered to the factory to begin production by the second half of this year.*

*The Defence Ministry has allowed manufacturer Sukhoi to start preparing for series production of the aircraft before a contract was formally signed due to the long development period for the machine, the report said.*

*All the Su-34s delivered under the new contract will be modified in line with the Sych research and development programme, and designated Su-34M or Su-34NVO the report said. This includes a new avionics suite, compatibility with new precision-guided weapons and external podded reconnaissance systems...*

*The pods will allow the Su-34 to locate radars and radio-emitters for hundreds of kilometres and fix their positions. The UKR-RL pod will allow the bomber to “see” in all weather conditions, day or night, the report said...*