

# Japan approves Osprey deployment

Tokyo has declared the U.S. military's controversial *MV-22 Osprey* safe for deployment from October. The tiltrotor aircraft combines the vertical lift of a helicopter with the speed and range of a fixed-wing airplane

## Engines

Wingtip-mounted nacelles turn through 90°. Cross-connected transmissions allow either engine to power both rotors if one engine fails

## In-flight refuelling probe

## Crew

Three, in high-visibility cockpit with night vision displays

**Wings:** Fold for compact storage aboard ship

**Capacity:** 24 troops or 9,000kg of internal cargo, three times payload of helicopter

## Loading ramp

Troops exit from rear of cargo bay, away from 80 knot rotor downdraft

## Rotors

11.6m diameter, rotate in opposite directions so tail rotor not required for stability as on helicopter

<b>First flight</b>	1989
<b>Length</b>	17.5m
<b>Width (with rotors)</b>	25.8m
<b>Maximum speed</b>	
Forward flight	565km/h
Vertical flight	185km/h
<b>Range (24 troops)</b>	1,100km
<b>Altitude</b>	7,925m

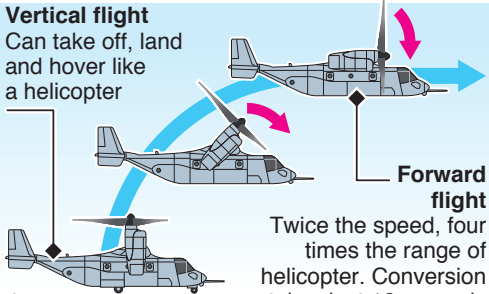
## Maximum speed

**1991–2000:** 30 people killed in test flights or training accidents

Sources: U.S. Department of Defense, Boeing

## Vertical flight

Can take off, land and hover like a helicopter



## Forward flight

Twice the speed, four times the range of helicopter. Conversion takes just 12 seconds

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