

Buk missile may have downed Malaysia plane

A Russian-made Buk missile system operated by pro-Moscow rebels could have shot down a Malaysian jetliner with 298 people aboard, according to Ukrainian officials and defence experts

9K37 Buk (NATO codename SA-11 Gadfly)

Self-propelled, medium-range surface-to-air missile system, entered service with Soviet Union in 1979

Missiles: Four carried side-by-side on rails, mounted on turntable that traverses full 360°.

System can be set up and ready to fire in five minutes

Warhead
70kg high explosive, triggered by proximity fuse

9M38 missile

Uses semi-active homing – missile detects signals reflected off target from launch vehicle radar

Length: **5.5m**

Diameter: **0.4m**

Weight: **55kg**

Speed: **Mach 3**

Maximum operational range: **32km**

"Fire Dome" radar

Tracks and illuminates targets flying at altitudes of between 15m and 22km

Mobile launch vehicle.
Length: **10m**

Crew
Three