

Australian pilotless combat jet

"Loyal Wingman", a joint project between Boeing and Australia's military, is a combat drone capable of flying alongside manned aircraft, offering fighter jet-like performance at a much lower cost

BOEING AIRPOWER TEAMING SYSTEM

Range: More than 3,700km

Speed: Drone can keep pace with modern fighter aircraft

Powerplant: Commercial turbofan engine, recessed to reduce infrared signature



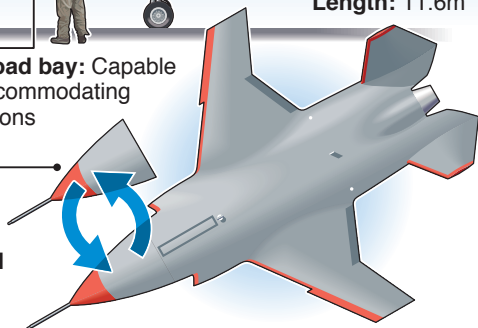
Length: 11.6m

Fuselage: Composite materials made using resin-infusion process

Payload bay: Capable of accommodating weapons

Nose: Primary sensor and technology payload provides intelligence-gathering and electronic warfare capabilities.

Nose can be rapidly swapped with different payloads between missions



"LOYAL WINGMAN" CONCEPT

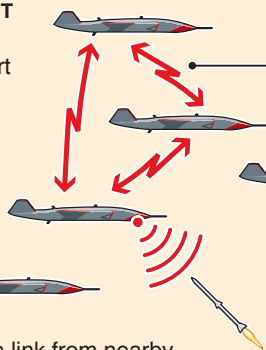
Drone's software allows it to fly independently or in support of manned aircraft while maintaining safe distance between other aircraft



Manned aircraft



Control via data link from nearby manned aircraft or ground station



Drones networked together into swarm to pinpoint and jam enemy radar and missile systems

Drones can fly ahead to probe enemy defences rather than risking costly aircraft and their crews

■ Drones capable of shielding aircraft such as F-35 Lightning II fighter jets and E-7 Wedgetail early warning and control planes

■ Boeing will use Loyal Wingman as basis for its \$400 million U.S. Air Force Skyborg prototype