



The **Bell UH-1 Iroquois** (nicknamed "**Huey**") is a utility [military helicopter](#) designed and produced by the American aerospace company [Bell Helicopter](#). Development of the Iroquois started in the early 1950s, a major impetus being a requirement issued by the [United States Army](#) for a new [medical evacuation](#) and [utility helicopter](#). The [Bell 204](#), first flown on 20 October 1956, was warmly received, particularly for the performance of its single [turboshaft](#) engine over [piston engine](#)-powered counterparts. An initial production contract for 100 *HU-1A*s was issued in March 1960. In response to criticisms over the rotorcraft's power, Bell quickly developed multiple models furnished with more powerful engines; in comparison to the prototype's [Lycoming YT53-L-1](#) (LTC1B-1) engine, producing 700 [shp](#)(520 kW), by 1966, the [Lycoming T53-L-13](#), capable of 1,400 shp (1,000 kW), was being installed on some models

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