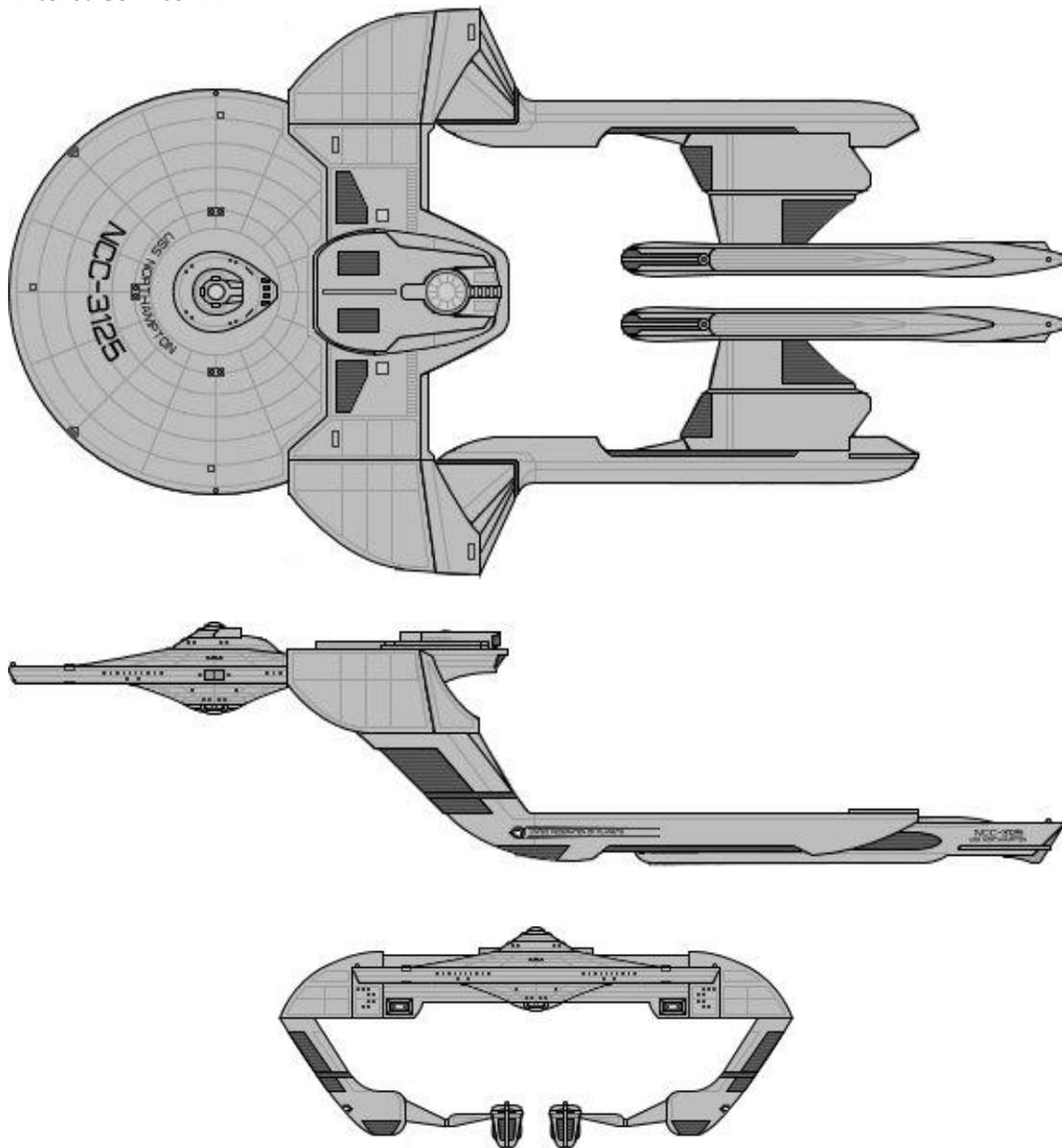


NORTHAMPTON-CLASS FAST-RESPONSE FRIGATE

Entered Service: 2274



Dimensions

Length: 300 meters

Beam: 159 meters

Draft: 63 meters

All art by Brad R. Torgersen of the STSTCSOLD&A

STAR TREK ADVENTURES

BY CHRISTIAN "SU-TEHP" FERNANDEZ-DUQUE

Overview: Similar to the *Chandley*-class frigate, the *Northampton*-class frigate was designed in the early 2270s as a fast-response tactical vessel that could not only engage in ship-to-ship combat but could also deploy Starfleet Security personnel to engage in boarding actions or support planetary ground operations. (Starfleet does not possess any sort of Marine Corps/Naval Infantry contingent, so Starfleet infantry operations are handled by Starfleet Security personnel.) Relations with both the Klingons and the Romulans were still tense at this time, so most *Northampton*-class frigates were deployed to the Klingon and Romulan borders to “help keep the peace.” After the signing of the Khitomer Accords in 2293 and the subsequent reductions of tensions along the Klingon-Federation border, many *Northampton*s were redeployed to the Romulan Neutral Zone. The *Northampton* Mark I frigates were eventually retired from service in 2316 and put in mothballs.

Capabilities: The *Northampton*-class frigate carried a crew of 325 officers and crewmen as well as a contingent of 220 Starfleet Security personnel trained in ship boarding combat operations. As it was designed as a fast-response, combat-capable troop transport, the *Northampton* did not have the facilities to carry civilian passengers without offloading the Starfleet Security troop complement first. The *Northampton* was considered a coveted posting by many Starfleet members. These ships had numerous recreational facilities and spacious quarters for the crewmembers and troops. Swimming pools, gravball courts, and physical fitness centers were all located in the rear port and starboard hull adjacent to the shuttlebay and engineering section. The purpose of these amenities was to keep crew and troop morale up during long deployments. The *Northampton* had an unusual arrangement of its phaser banks: it was equipped with a forward phaser bank, an aft-starboard bank and an aft-port bank. The *Northampton* was also armed with three forward-firing photon torpedo launchers. Although the hull design incorporated the single-engine lock found on several Andorian designs, the *Northampton* was actually a Martian design that was built at the Utopia Planitia shipyards. The *Northampton* was equipped with six standard 6-person transporters as well as four 20-person combat transporters for rapid troop deployment. It was also equipped with 2 cargo transporters. When used in tandem, the combat transporters could deploy the *Northampton*'s entire complement of 220 troops in less than seven minutes. The *Northampton* was equipped with an improved impulse engine that gave the vessel a superb sublight acceleration curve. Furthermore, the *Northampton*'s pontoons carried its upgraded inertial dampeners which granted the ship amazing maneuverability for its size. Both the improved speed and maneuverability greatly aided the *Northampton*'s combat capability.

Systems

Comms	7	Engines	9	Structure	9
Computers	7	Sensors	8	Weapons	10

Departments

cmd	--	SEC	+1	SCI	--
conn	+2	ENG	--	MED	--

Scale: 4

Attacks

- Phaser Banks
- Photon Torpedoes
- Tractor Beam (Strength 3)

Talents

Northampton-class starships have the following Talents:

- Improved Impulse Drive
- Improved Reaction Control System



Arlington-class Variant

Entered Service 2348

When hostilities between the Federation and the Cardassian Union erupted into open war in 2347, Starfleet's Advanced Starship Design Bureau (ASDB) returned to the *Northampton*-class design and began to redraw its specs to the standards of the 24th century. This Mark II design was abandoned while still in the planning stage when several new systems upgrades had just become feasible and made the Mark II obsolete. A new design was initiated from scratch to take advantage of these upgrades and thus the Mark III *Arlington*-subclass of the *Northampton*-class frigate was born. With the Warp Factor Recalibration in 2314, the improvements in warp field geometry allowed the Mark III to be refitted with greatly improved warp engines that could propel the *Northampton* to a cruising speed of Warp 8 (MCU) and a top speed of Warp 9.6 (MCU), both of which are essential for a fast-response vessel. Many of the mothballed Mark Is were refitted to the Mark III specifications and served with distinction in both the Federation-Cardassian War and the Federation-Tzenkethi War. As of 2371, tensions with the Dominion are on the rise so there is every possibility that these new *Northampton*-class frigates might be called to action yet again.

Changes: Add the Long-Serving Trait. Increase Engines and Weapons by +2 each, increase Computers, Sensors, and Structure each by +1.

Acknowledgements: The *Northampton*, like the *Chandley*, is a starship design I've liked ever since the old FASA days. I want to thank Stephen Near for inspiring me to redesign the *Northampton* for Star Trek Adventures with his own STA redesign of the *Chandley*. Thanks also to [Resurrected Starships](#) for their new take on the [Northampton's variable mode warp nacelles](#), and to Brad Torgersen for both maintaining the [Star Trek Starship Tactical Combat Simulator Online Database and Archive](#) website and for providing artwork of the *Northampton*. Finally, many thanks to Colin "Mephit James" Wilson and Michael Dismuke of [Continuing Mission](#) for their assistance with this rewrite of the *Northampton*-class frigate.