

PERSEUS-CLASS

Entered Service: 2247. *Perseus*-class starships were retired from service after 2280.

Overview: The fast and maneuverable *Perseus*-class out-gunned the larger *Constitution*-class vessel prior to the latter's refit. Lightly armoured, the *Perseus* escort vessel was designed by Starfleet to serve as the primary corvettes and frigates of the Federation. Observing Starfleet's longstanding philosophy of not designing warships, the purpose of the *Perseus*-class was one of defence. They were primarily used to accompany cargo vessels and diplomatic freighters while also patrolling the borders of the Federation. At times of conflict, *Perseus*-class ships were used as scouting vessels launched ahead of a larger fleet.

Capabilities: Retaining the traditional saucer and nacelles of Federation starships, the *Perseus* had a smaller cylindrical secondary hull extended directly from the aft section of the saucer. This secondary hull housed the warp reactor and powerful impulse engines, which gave the class its famed maneuverability. The navigational deflector was mounted to the front of the saucer section, giving the vessel a narrow profile, maximizing its shielding. Like the *Constitution*-class, *Perseus* ships made use of Doctor Richard Daystrom duotronic computer system, albeit a more compact and less robust version. In the 2260s, this computer was upgraded to incorporate elements of the M-3 and M-4 computer systems created by Doctor Daystrom. While the doctor considered these systems to be a failure at the time, they allowed for greater automation throughout the ship, including faster targeting and threat response, as well as increased reaction time from the crew. Comparable in size to the classic *NX*-class of ship, *Perseus*-class vessels had 6 decks. However, the vessels employed far smaller crews than vessels of comparable scale, requiring as few as 65 crew members. Standard weaponry on the design included two high power phaser banks, two photon torpedo launchers, and dual phaser cannons. These forward mounted cannons made *Perseus* ships feared by both Nausicaan pirates and Orion raiders. The class was largely successful during the war with the Klingons in the 2250s, but suffered heavy losses. Over the class' lifetime, the surviving ships were refit several times, with a major upgrade in the mid-2260s to include a rear-facing torpedo launcher and phaser bank. The class fell into disuse in the late 2270s, and did not undergo the substantial refit several *Constitution*-class vessels received. Instead, the design was replaced by the *Soyuz* and newer *Miranda*-class vessels. 24th Century historians have called the *Perseus*-class an unsung hero of the early Federation, noting that while the *Constitution*-class braved the frontier and expanded the Federation, it was the *Perseus*-class that civilized the frontier by maintaining the trade routes so vital to the growing Federation.

SYSTEMS

COMMS 06

ENGINES 08

STRUCTURE 08

COMPUTERS 08

SENSORS 07

WEAPONS 08

DEPARTMENTS

COMMAND -

SECURITY +2

SCIENCE -

CONN +1

ENGINEERING -

MEDICINE -

SCALE: 3

WEAPONRY:

- Phaser Banks
- Phaser Cannons
- Photon Torpedoes
- Tractor Beam (Strength 2)

TALENTS

Perseus-class starships have the following Talents:

- Fast Targeting Systems
- Improved Impulse Engines

