

Northampton Class X Frigate



Construction Data

Model Numbers	Mk I	Mk III	Mk IV
Date Entering Service	2282 (2/19)	2283 (2/20)	2290 (2/27)
Number Constructed	60	73	54

Hull Data

Superstructure Points	29	29	29
Damage Chart	C	C	C

Size

Length	300 m	300 m	300 m
Width	150 m	150 m	150 m
Height	75 m	75 m	75 m
Weight	154,660 mt	154,510 mt	154,960 mt

Cargo

Cargo Units	500 SCU	500 SCU	500 SCU
Cargo Capacity	25,000 mt	25,000 mt	25,000 mt
Landing Capability	None	None	None

Equipment Data

Control Computer Type	M-6	M-6	M-6A
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Transporters

standard 6-person	6	6	6
combat 20-person	4	4	4
cargo	2	2	2

Other Data

Crew	325	328	333
Passengers	220	220	220
Shuttlecraft	6	6	6

Engines and Power Data

Total Power Units Available	56	56	56
Movement Point Ratio	4/1	4/1	4/1
Warp Engine Type	FWG-1	FWG-1	FWG-1
Number	2	2	2
Power Units Available	26	26	26
Stress Charts	D/F	D/F	D/F
Maximum Safe Cruising Speed	Warp 8	Warp 8	Warp 8
Emergency Speed	Warp 10	Warp 10	Warp 10
Impulse Engine Type	FID-2	FID-2	FID-2
Power Units Available	4	4	4

Weapons and Firing Data

Beam Weapon Type	FH-11	FH-11	FH-11
Number	6 in 3 banks of 2	6 in 3 banks of 2	6 in 3 banks of 2
Firing Arcs	2f, 2a/p, 2a/s	2f, 2a/p, 2a/s	2f/p, 2f/s, 2a
Firing Chart	Y	Y	Y
Maximum Power	10	10	10

Damage Modifiers	+3 (1-10)	(1-10)	(1-10)
	+2 (11-17)	(11-17)	(11-17)
	+1 (18-24)	(18-24)	(18-24)

Missile Weapon Type

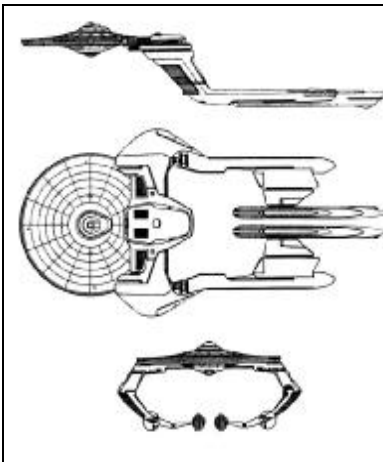
Number	3	3	3
Firing Arcs	3f	3f	3f
Firing Chart	R	O	R
Power To Arm	1	1	1
Damage	8	12	16

Shields Data

Deflector Shield Type	FSO	FSO	FSP
Shield Point Ratio	1/3	1/3	1/4
Maximum Shield Power	16	16	16

Combat Efficiency

D--	124.0	124.0	151.5
WDF--	79.2	83.4	93.3
CE--	98.2	103.4	141.3



Notes:

The *Northampton* class frigate, stationed by Starfleet in all sensitive areas to prevent aggression, enjoys the respect and admiration of its crews and troops. These ships have numerous recreation facilities and spacious quarters for the crewmembers and marines. Swimming pools, grav-ball courts and physical fitness centers are all located in the lower hull adjacent to the shuttlebay and near the engineering section.

The *Northampton* mounts one of the most powerful of Starfleet's engines, the FWG-1 warp engine, which allows it to reach trouble spots quickly. Although the hull design incorporates the single-engine lock found on several Andorian designs, the *Northampton* is a Martian design.

The weapons array on the Mk I and III *Northampton* is similar to that found on the *Chandley* class frigates, though the arrangement is not the same. Both classes mount 6 FH-11 phasers, but the fields of fire are quite different, with the *Northampton* having better aft-firing capabilities and the *Chandley* having better forward-firing capabilities. Unlike the *Chandley*, the *Northampton* has concentrated all three of its torpedo tubes forward, which makes it offensively powerful.

The Mk II *Northampton* was to include an experimental 30-person combat rapid transporter. Two ships were completed (save for the transporter hardware) for this purpose. However, the transporter did not pass Starfleet trials and the Mk II ships were converted to Mk I standard.

The Mk IV *Northampton* was put into production approximately one year before the Khitomer peace accords. During this time there was an increase in neutral zone intrusions by the Klingon Empire. Starfleet felt that it would be prudent to expand the offensive capabilities of several of their more proven and reliable classes of ships. Starfleet representatives realized that with the alarms raised by more pacifist groups coupled with a growing trend towards arms reduction, there would never be the approval of funds required for the construction of several new and more powerful classes of ships. Starfleet then came up with the proposal of refitting the *Chandley* with the FP-4 torpedo. These photons not only had the same range as the FP-5 but delivered 20 percent more damage to their targets. Members of the Starfleet Supply Corps proposed a way to appease the Council and add more punch to another frigate- the *Northampton* Mk IV was born. Instead of merely discarding the photon launchers the supply corps suggested that they be mounted on the *Northampton*'s as they were coming in for scheduled refits and overhauls.

This idea was unnerving to the Deltans. They felt that not only was Starfleet increasing its offensive capability, they felt that the increase in weaponry would antagonize the Klingons and Romulans. However the idea appealed to the Vulcan sense of logic by not discarding a completely functional weapons system. Additionally, the Izarians and Andorians fully supported the idea of increasing the fleet's preparedness. To appease the Deltan delegation it was agreed to upgrade the shield system to the FSP, providing the crew with more protection should hostilities arise. With Vulcan support and the Andorians and Izarians behind it as well, the first refit was ordered.

Historical Notes:

The first *Northampton* to receive the upgrade was the battle-hardened *USS Richland*. This was due to the fact that it was in need of an extensive re-tooling of its superstructure and also due to the contacts that RADM(LH) Jack Sigma had at Starfleet. Now in command of Starbase 12, RADM Sigma got the *Richland*- his former ship- slated for the upgrade. *USS Richland* underwent an extensive refit for 9 months. When she left the yards, there was little evidence that anything had been done to her, aside from the scars of battle no longer showing. Under her new commanding officer, the former First Officer, she sailed back into the tenuous area of space along the Klingon border patrolling an area that had seen numerous Klingon incursions.

R.L Mallory, now a captain, was about to get the chance to put the new weapons systems of the *Northampton* to the test. On Stardate 2/2810 (October 2292), the *Richland* was patrolling an area a mere 0.5 light years from the Neutral Zone. Receiving a distress call from a lone *Liberty* freighter that it was under attack from the Klingons, the *Richland* immediately set course for the call at maximum warp.

Upon arrival *USS Richland* observed 2 *D-18B* destroyers and one *D-10H* involved in finishing off their prey. The *Liberty's* escort, 2 *Larson* destroyers, had been easily overwhelmed. One lay in space and the other gave no signs of life aboard. Captain Mallory immediately took the ship to red alert and had his First Officer, Commander Sodak, call for the Klingons to surrender. The Klingon commander replied in typical Klingon fashion by turning his attention from the *Liberty* and opening fire on the *Richland*. Giving sporadic phaser fire, Captain Mallory was hoping to draw the Klingons in to range to maximize the forward phaser and the newly installed photons. Commander Sodak powered down the port phaser arrays and sent out a distress call to Starbase 12. This gave the appearance of having sustained heavy damage.

The Klingon commander ordered his *D-10* to close and disable the *Richland*. As the Klingon vessel approached it was obvious that she was not expecting the response she got. When the Klingon task force entered 150,000 kilometers, Captain Mallory had the weapons officer, LCDR Davis, fire all the forward weapons. The resulting contact was devastating for the Klingons. The phasers and photons impacted the *D-10* with such force that it was destroyed in a single volley. The resulting explosion crippled the warp drive of one *D-18* leaving it with only impulse and caused severe structural damage to the one *D-18* that managed to flee the scene. After a spirited boarding action, the *Richland's* Marines gained access to the Engineering section and secured the remaining *D-18* for the Federation. After this encounter the *Northampton's*, always given a wide berth in battle, were treated as even more of a threat by Klingon commanders.

The Mk IV *Northampton* did so well in after action reports that the decision was made to stop production of all Mk Is and retool them to the Mk IV. This again appealed to the more fiscally minded members of the Federation- existing production facilities and existing technology could be used.

Reports on the exploits of the *USS Bremerton* while in the Triangle have made quite a stir in military circles. After spending one year in the Triangle conducting business of an undisclosed nature, the *Bremerton* returned to Starbase 10 and reported that it had encountered both Romulan and Klingon ships, all of which it was forced to fight. Details of the encounters are still classified.

Of the 60 Mk Is constructed, 16 remain in service with 44 converted to Mk IV. The remaining Mk Is are all scheduled for refit to Mk IV standard. Of the 73 Mk IIIs built, all remain in service with most scheduled to undergo the refit to the Mk IV at their scheduled maintenance periods. Of the 54 Mk IVs (44 refits, 10 new builds), all remain in service. All facilities are now producing the newest version of the *Northampton* with the upgraded photon launchers and shield generators. The *Northampton* is produced at the Sol IV shipyards. Peak production rates before the upgrade schedule to the Mk IV was 20 per year.

Changes to FASA Mk I and II:

- Weight slightly adjusted due to component weights.
- WDF adjusted

Updated and expanded from Federation Ship Recognition Manual, 2nd edition with additional material from Ship Construction Manual, 2nd edition, both by FASA. Original text by Richard Ayers (jodydog@hotmail.com). Compiled and edited by Lee Wood (FASAfam@hotmail.com). Version 3.1.

Dedicated to the crew of the *USS Richland*: Richard Ayers, John Ferrell, Wesley Haskins, Blake Paris, Michael Penuel, Bobby Todd, Lee Wood and the rest who joined on occasion to adventure among the stars.