

"Hydra" Escort Frigate (FFE)

HS: 5
HP: 40
ADF: 4
MR: 3
DCR: 70
Length: 100 meters
Diameter: 15 meters
Hatches: 2
Engines: 3 Class B Atomic
Life Support: 35 beings (primary)
Life Support: 35 beings (backup)
Crew: 34
 Officers: (7)
 Crew: (22)
 Security: (5)
 ***Robots:** 12
Crew Accommodations: 6 single rooms, 15 single/double bunk rooms
Cargo Capacity: none
Computer Level/Function points: Level 5 / 239 FP
Computer Programs: Drive 5, Life Support 1, Alarm 3, Computer Lockout 5, Damage Control 3, Skin Sensors 1, Analysis 4, ICM 3, Laser Cannon 1, Laser Battery 1, Rocket Battery 2, Torpedo 1, Communication 1, Computer Security 5, Information Storage 4, Installation Security 4, Robot Management 4, Astrogation 4
Astrogation Equipment: Standard Starship
Communications Equipment: Videocom radio w/1 extra screen, Subspace radio, Intercom w/25 speaker/mikes
Sensor Systems: Radar, Energy Sensors, 40 portholes, Cameras, Skin Sensors
Weapons: LC, PLT x 6, RB x2
Defenses: Decoy, RH, ICM x2 (4 salvos each)
Ship's Vehicles: 5 Escape Pods, lifeboat, 3 small launches, 2 workpods
Other Equipment: White Noise Broadcaster
Total Cost (unfueled): 2,582,050 cr

UPF Spacefleet recognized the need for a starship to be able to provide escort to civilian ships as well as cruisers and carriers. The idea that was decided on was the proposal placed by PGC – to augment a current starship in use by Spacefleet. This would not increase supply demands and would greatly speed production. The Frigate was the choice for this adaptation – it is light, fast and mounts impressive offensive and defensive weapon capabilities.

The “Hydra” class Escort Frigate has removed the laser battery, torpedoes and half of the ammunition for its rocket battery. These were replaced with the laser pod turrets*. The masking screen was removed and a second ICM launcher was installed with 4 salvos. Some engineers argued that this was a waste of money and space but, the concept is that 1 system can protect a cruiser or carrier within the neighboring hex and the second system can defend the frigate or another cruiser/carrier.**

The Admiralty approved of the name for this class based on the numerous weapon systems able to target up to 8 separate enemy targets at one time – like the name of the mythical creature from lore.

* The PLT has a range of 40K kilometers, MHS:1, costs 8,000Cr and requires 20cubic meters of space. Treat as a laser battery to hit with no damage table modifiers and damage is 1d10. It has a firing arc of 360*. The PLT uses the standard Laser Battery program.

**The vessel being escorted must be within the same hex as the Escort Frigate or one of the hexes surrounding it – within 10,000 km. This rule only applies to the Escort Frigate.