

# STAR DESTROYERS:

## *HISTORY & CLASSES*

### INTRODUCTION

There has been a long line of Star Destroyers, dating from the Clone Wars to the present. While Star Destroyers did not officially receive their title until the rise of the Empire, their roots date back to the outbreak of the Clone Wars.



### THE ACCLAMATOR

The *Acclamator-class Heavy Cruiser* is not a true Star Destroyer, but the Acclamator laid the foundation for later such craft as suggested by its naming style. The Acclamator was a ground assault and troop ship developed as the Clone Wars began.

The Acclamator was developed by Rothana Heavy Engineering (a secret subsidiary of KDY at the time). Its intention was to deliver a large amount of ground troops and their vehicles while providing protection (thus alleviating the need of support ships).

The craft was 752 meters long. It was able to carry well over 150 heavy vehicles and 16,000 troops and deliver them to a world's surface by using huge repulsorlift engines. The Acclamator, however, was not designed to win space battles, only defend long enough to drop off its payload. The Acclamator was not considered a carrier nor heavily armed enough to be considered a battleship.

Acclamators are at least rare, if no longer existent. Many Acclamators were destroyed during the Clone Wars. With the rise of the Empire, remaining Acclamators were scrapped to produce more useful ships.





## THE VENATOR

As the Clone Wars continued, a replacement was needed for the Acclamator which could engage in and win space battles against the Confederacy of Independent States. Kuat Drive Yards produced the *Venator-class Light Battlecruiser*, which in hindsight would become known as the first Star Destroyer.

The Venator was over a kilometer in length (1137 meters), almost 50% larger than the Acclamator. Venator's were improved for space battles by making them carriers. Venators had vast holds that were known to hold over 400 starfighters, an astounding number. Armament was almost the same as the Acclamator; the Venator was a carrier relying on its wings of starfighters for offense and defense. The Venator carried less than half as many ground vehicles as the Acclamator and 1/8th the number of troops (2,000). The Venator could be used in a ground assault role, but it was more of an after-thought. During the Venator's reign, enough Acclamators were still in use to fulfill the ground assault role.

During the Clone Wars, the Republic originally classed Venator's as Battlecruisers. The Empire's altered classification system would later redub them as Star Destroyers.

Venators still exist within the Empire, but are a rare sight. The Empire has sold a few Venators to wealthy and loyal Core worlds for system defense.



## THE VICTOR

The *Victor-class Star Cruiser* is more commonly called the *Victory-class Star Destroyer*. This KDY ship was just being completed as the Clone Wars were coming to a close. Thus, it was dubbed the, "Victor" or "Victory-class" in celebration of the triumph of the Clone Wars. It is the first Star Destroyer to be classified as such by the Empire when first built.

The Victory is 900 meters long. It is thus the only Star Destroyer that was actually smaller than its predecessor. The Victory was intended to replace both the ground assault Acclamator and the space superiority Venators as one ship. The Victory thus has ground assault capability (approximately 2,000 troops plus support vehicles), is a carrier (24 TIE fighters), and has good armaments. However, as a jack-of-all-trades, it was a master of none. The Victory was only decent in its battleship role. It was very lacking in both its carrier and ground assault roles. While the Victory-II increased the ship's lackluster drives, it did nothing to increase its troop or starfighter complement.

The Victory was later seen as the primary catalyst of the later Imperator. To improve on its lacking carrier and ground assault capabilities, engineers began designing a similar ship with a larger complement of craft and troops that would end up being twice as large.

The Victor is no longer produced, but is still found in service. It is considered an obsolete ship and not found in front line fleets.





## THE IMPERATOR

The *Imperator-class Star Cruiser* is more commonly called the *Imperial-class Star Destroyer*. KDY produced this ship for the new Empire (thus its name). The *Imperator* is considered the standard by which all *Star Destroyers* are compared. It is similar to the *Victor* in purpose and layout, but improved in all areas due to its increased size. The *Imperator* is the current work-horse of the Empire.

The *Imperator* is 1600 meters long. When compared to its predecessor, the *Victor*, the *Imperator* is nearly twice as large. The *Imperator* tripled its starfighter complement (72). With nearly five times the troops (9,700 Stormtroopers, an entire Division) and assault vehicles (50 walkers) the *Imperator* brings fear to any world it visits. While the *Imperator* can't land, it can dip into low orbit and release its horde of ships through a large underbelly hangar bay door.

The *Imperator* is the most commonly encountered *Star Destroyer* in the Empire. An *Imperator-II* is about to be launched that will include upgrades to both armaments and defenses, but otherwise is nearly the same ship.

## THE TECTOR

The *Tector-class Light Battlecruiser\** was an experiment by KDY to produce a *Star Destroyer* that is solely a battleship. If the *Venator* was a carrier, the *Tector* is a battleship.

The *Tector* has no large hangar, nor does it carry ground troops. The *Tector* is purely a ship designed to slug it out in a space battle with its armaments. The *Tector* shares the same hull as the *Imperator*, but does not have a hold for vehicles or starfighters. Only a few shuttles are carried by the *Tector* in several small hangars. The *Tector* has nearly 50% more armaments than the *Imperator* along with improved shields.

The most obvious difference in outside appearance between the *Tector* and the *Imperator* is its lack of a large hangar door in its under-belly.

The *Tector* is still in use, but rare. After the initial simultaneous production of *Tectors* and *Imperators*, only *Imperators* have been constructed.

*\*Even though the Tector is in many ways just another model of the Imperator-class Star Cruiser, Imperial engineers opted to classify it as a Light Battlecruiser instead due to its designed role as a battleship.*



## THE INTERDICTOR

When KDY shelved its plans for the *Immobilizer-class Cruiser*, it sold the designs to Siemar Fleet Systems. Thus, the renamed *Interdictor-class Destroyer* was not actually built by KDY or its subsidiary.

It is a ship designed for one purpose - preventing enemy ships to engage hyperspace drives.

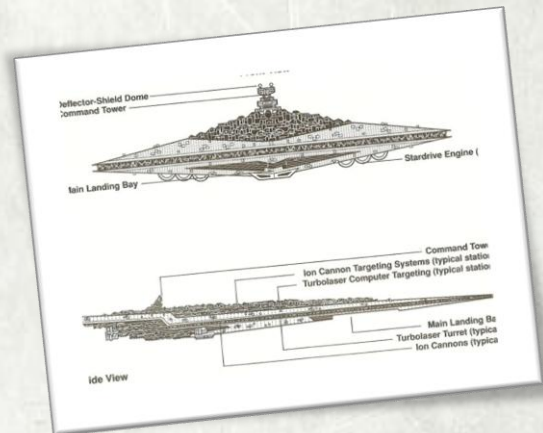
The *Interdictor* is 600 meters long. Its most striking difference to the other wedge-shaped Imperial cruisers is its four bulbous gravity wells



generators. These generators project gravity wells to prevent fleeing ships from entering hyperspace. The Interdictor thus is not a true combat ship, but only used in a support role.

The Interdictor has some defenses. It has a handful of armaments and carries 1/3 of a wing of starfighters (24).

Only a prototype (the *Interdictor*) has been built. Sienar is hoping the Empire will appreciate its abilities and order more.



## THE EXECUTOR

KDY is rumored to be designing a massive Star Dreadnought, to dwarf even the Emperor. If the rumors are true, the *Executor-class Super Star Destroyer* is to be a flagship for fleets of Imperators.

The nearly impossible rumors suggest the Executor is to be 20 kilometers long. It is supposed to hold thirty times the armaments of an Emperor, two fighter wings, and four Stormtrooper divisions.

If the tales are true, the ship will be a massive city in space, with nothing able to match its capabilities.

