

DDH 280 Iroquois [Tribal Class] - 1991 Gulf War Mod, HMCS Athabaskan

Canada

Type: DDH - Helicopter Destroyer

Max Speed: 27 kt

Commissioned: 1991

Length: 128.8 m

Beam: 15.2 m

Draft: 4.7 m

Crew: 292

Displacement: 4450 t

Displacement Full: 5100 t

Propulsion: 2x General Motors Allison 570KF

Gas Turbines, 2x Pratt & Whitney FT4-A2 Gas

Turbines, COGOG



Sensors / EW:

- CMAS-36 - (CTS-36 RDN, Spectra-Scan 3000) Hull Sonar, Active-Only, Hull Sonar, Active-Only Shallow Water Mine & Obstacle Avoidance, Max range: 0.9 km
- CA/SQS-505(V)2 [SQA-502 Hoist] - (CTS-36 RDN, Spectra-Scan 3000) VDS, Active/Passive Sonar, VDS, Active/Passive Variable Depth Sonar, Max range: 29.6 km
- MM/SPQ-2D - (CTS-36 RDN, Spectra-Scan 3000) Radar, Radar, Air & Surface Search, 2D Short-Range, Max range: 74.1 km
- CA/SPS-501 [LW.03] - (1968) Radar, Radar, Air Search, 2D Medium-Range, Max range: 185.2 km
- CA/SQS-505(V)1 - (Limbo Director) Hull Sonar, Active/Passive, Hull Sonar, Active/Passive Search & Mortar Fire Control, Max range: 29.6 km
- WM.22 - (Missile FCS, Larger Ships) Radar, Radar Illuminator, Medium-Range, Max range: 59.3 km
- AN/ULQ-6C - (AN/SLQ-26) ECM, OECM & DECM, Offensive & Defensive ECM, Max range: 0 km
- CA/SLQ-501 CANEWS - (1985) ESM, RWR, Radar Warning Receiver, Max range: 370.4 km
- CA/SQS-501 [Type 162 Cockshafer] - (1985) Hull Sonar, Active-Only, Hull Sonar, Active-Only Bottom Profiler, Max range: 0.7 km
- CA/SRD-501 HF/DF [Telegon 4] - (1985) ESM, HF/DF, Max range: 55.6 km
- AN/ALR-76 - (1985) ESM, ELINT, Max range: 926 km
- CA/UPD-501 ESM - (1952-1998) ESM, ELINT, Max range: 926 km

Weapons / Loadouts:

- Corvus Chaff [Seduction] - (102mm) Decoy (Expendable). Surface Max: 1.9 km.
- Corvus Chaff [Distraction] - (102mm) Decoy (Expendable). Surface Max: 1.9 km.
- RIM-7H Sea Sparrow - (1976, Mk29) Guided Weapon. Air Max: 14.8 km. Surface Max: 14.8 km.
- Mk10 Limbo ASW Mortar Salvo [3 rnds] - Gun. Subsurface Max: 0.9 km.
- 127mm/54 OTO Melara Compact HECVT - Gun. Air Max: 2.8 km. Surface Max: 20.4 km. Land Max: 20.4 km.
- 127mm/54 OTO Melara Compact HiCap - Gun. Air Max: 2.8 km. Surface Max: 20.4 km. Land Max: 20.4 km.

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- Mk46 NEARTIP Mod 5 - (1984) Torpedo. Subsurface Max: 7.4 km.
 - AN/SLQ-25 Nixie - Decoy (Towed). Surface Max: 1.9 km.
 - 20mm/85 Mk15 Phalanx Blk 1 Burst [300 rnds] - Gun. Air Max: 1.5 km.
 - Blowpipe - (1976, MANPADS) Guided Weapon. Air Max: 3.7 km.
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OVERVIEW: The Iroquois- class aka Tribal-class DDG is a 2 shaft, COGOG-powered, helo-capable destroyer intended primarily for ASW.

DETAILS: The Iroquois were designed for long-range ASW warfare, using two CH-124 Sea King helicopters. To support these large helicopters, the class had a large flight deck and a two-helicopter hangar. It also had a haul down device, allowing for helicopters landing operations in heavy seas. A passive-tank anti-rolling system was fitted to improve stability at low speeds. A distinctive feature of the design was the two paired stacks (termed "Playboy Bunny" stacks) angled outboard to avoid corrosion of antennas by stack gases.

In addition to the CH-124, the class used a hull-mounted SQS-501 and SQS-505 VDS for ASW search.

The class ships was armed with a quick-firing OTO Melara 5"/54, providing good anti-surface/naval gunfire support capability, as well as close-ranged anti-aircraft defence. Point anti-aircraft defence was provided by NATO Sea Sparrow missiles. ASW attack capability was provided by two Mk.32 triple torpedo launchers, and helicopter launched torpedoes.

During the Gulf War of 1990/91, HMCS ATHABASKAN was upgraded with a mine-avoidance sonar, Phalanx 20mm CIWS and Blowpipe and Javelin MANPADs.

Specifications:

Displacement: 4,700t

Length: 128.92m

Beam: 15.24m

Draught: 4.42m

Propulsion: 2 shafts; 2x Pratt & Whitney FT12AH3 cruise gas turbines, 7400 shp; 2x Pratt & Whitney FT4A2 boost gas turbines, 50,000 shp;

Complement: 285

Speed: 29kn

Range: 4,500 nm (8,300km) @ 12kn

NOTES: IOC 1970. Units in class: IROQUOIS (DD 280), HURON (DD 281), ATHABASKAN (DD 282), ALGONQUIN (DD 283). When USS PRINCETON was disabled after hitting a mine in the northern Gulf, ATHABASKAN escorted a tug to her rescue and escorted both ships back out through the minefield.

SOURCES: Prezelin, Bernard. The Naval Institute Guide to Combat Fleets of the World, 1990-1991. US Naval Institute Press, 1990., pg. 55-6; "Iroquois-class Destroyer." Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. Last modified April 16, 2022. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iroquois-class_destroyer. ; "Mackenzie Class Destroyer Escort DDE Royal Canadian Navy." Seaforces Online - Naval Information. Accessed April 30, 2022. <https://www.seaforces.org/marint/Canadian-Navy/Destroyer/Iroquois-class.htm>. ; McClearn, Sandy. "IROQUOIS Class." Haze Gray & Underway - Naval History and Photography. Accessed April 30,

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2022. <https://www.hazegray.org/navhist/canada/postwar/tribal/>.