

CHARACTERISTICS OF PRINCIPAL FOREIGN SHIPS OF WAR

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Characteristics of Principal Foreign Ships of War by Various

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VARIOUS

**CHARACTERISTICS OF
PRINCIPAL FOREIGN
SHIPS OF WAR**

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From the
U. S. Government.

CHARACTERISTICS
OF
PRINCIPAL FOREIGN SHIPS OF WAR,
PREPARED FOR THE
BOARD ON FORTIFICATIONS, ETC.,
IN THE
U.S. - OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE,
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION,
NAVY DEPARTMENT.

1885.

INCLOSURE
Characteristics of principal

(Prepared in the Office of Naval

)NOTES.—The dates given refer to year of launch and are all subsequent to 1870.

ENGLAND.

Name of ship.	Descriptive and explanatory remarks.	Crew, officers and men.	Maximum trial speed.	Dimensions.				Battery.			
				Length.	Breadth.	Draught aft.	Displacement.	Number.	Caliber.	Type.	Power (number of wrought ton at muzzle).
<i>Barbette armored ships.</i>											
Téméraire	Iron; sheathed; 1876; battle and cruising ship; belt and two barbette towers; brig rig; protective deck, 1½" thick; condition good.	631	14.6	285 0	62 2	27 2	8,540	4	11	26-ton M. L.	14
Impérieuse	Steel; sheathed; 1893; barbette battle and cruising ship; partial belt; four barbette towers; unprotected broadside; protective deck, 2" to 4" thick; steel; brig rig; condition good.	400	18	315 0	22 0	25 6	7,300	4	2 2	do	10
								6	6	do	11.9
Waspito	Steel; sheathed; 1884; condition good.	400	16	315 0	23 0	25 6	7,300	4	2 2	do	19
Collingwood	Steel; 1882; barbette battle-ship; partial belt; two barbette towers; unprotected broadside; protected from raking fire by bulkheads from towers to side; one mast; military top; protective deck, 2½" thick; condition good.	423	16.84	325 0	66 0	26 3	9,150	4	12	43-ton R. L.	24.9
								6	6	R. L.	11.9
Rodney	Steel; 1884; type of Collingwood; protective deck, 2½" to 3" thick; condition good.	445	*16	325 0	66 0	27 3	9,800	4	13.5	do	20.6
Howe	Steel; 1885; sister ship to Rodney; completing.	445	*16	325 0	66 0	27 3	9,800	4	13.5	do	20.6
Banbow	Steel; 1886; type of Collingwood; deck, 2½" to 3" thick; completing.	455	*16	330 0	66 6	27 3	10,000	2	16.25	110-ton R. L.	22.5
								10	6	R. L.	11.9
Camperdown	Steel; type of Collingwood; deck, 2½" to 3" thick; building.	446	*16	330 0	66 6	27 3	10,000	4	13.5	do	20.6
Anson	do	454	*16	330 0	66 6	27 3	10,000	4	13.5	do	20.6
<i>Turret armored ships.</i>											
Devastation	Iron; 1871; battle-ship; high freeboard; double turrets; breastwork monitor; one mast; protective deck, 8" to 2" thick; condition good.	358	13.84	265 0	62 3	27 6	9,330	4	12	35-ton M. L.	15.5
Thunderer	Iron; 1873; type of Devastation (sister-ship); condition good.	358	13.4	265 0	62 3	27 0	9,330	2	12.6	88-ton M. L.	18.7
Dreadnought	Iron; 1875; type of Devastation; deck, 3", 2½", 2" thick; condition good.	369	14.24	330 0	63 10	26 9	10,820	4	12.5	88-ton M. L.	18.7
Neposime	Iron; sheathed; 1874; battle and cruising ship; two turrets; oceanic; bark rig; built for Brazil; protective deck, 3" to 2" thick; condition good.	541	14.2	300 0	63 0	28 1	9,310	4	12.5	do	18.7
Inflexible	Iron; 1876; battle-ship; partial belt; etched and two turrets; unprotected ends; oak belt; two masts; protective deck, 3" thick; condition good.	440	14.75	320 0	75 0	26 4	11,880	4	16	80-ton M. L.	27.5
								6	4	R. L.
Ajax	Iron; 1880; type of Inflexible; protective deck, 3" thick; condition good.	385	13.5	280 0	66 0	24 0	8,510	4	12.5	38-ton M. L.	18.7
Agamemnon	Iron; 1879; sister ship to Ajax; condition good.	385	*13	280 0	66 0	24 0	8,510	2	6	R. L.	14.1
								4	12.5	38-ton M. L.	18.7
Conqueror	Steel; 1881; battle-ship; medium freeboard; one turret; unarmored upperworks; steel sheath; protective deck, 2½" to 1½" thick; steel; one steel mast; condition good.	350	15.5	270 0	56 0	24 0	6,200	2	12	43-ton R. L.	24.9
								4	6	R. L.	14.1
Hero	Steel; sister ship to Conqueror; building.	*15.5	270 0	56 0	24 0	6,200	2	12	43-ton R. L.	24.9
								4	6	R. L.	14.1

* Official estimates.

A.

foreign ships of war.

Intelligence, Navy Department.)

The speed given is the highest attained with all weights and stores on board.]

ENGLAND.

Battery.	Torpedo boata.	Weight of fra.			Armor.						Backing.		Remarks.
		Ahead.	Broadside.	Astern.	Distribution.	Material.	Maximum thick-ness.	Minimum thick-ness.	Shin.	Material.	Thick-ness.		
Position and mounting.						In.	In.	In.		In.			
Two in barbette towers, two in broadside. In broadside.		1,650	2,474	500	Belt complete; casemates; 3 barbette towers; conning tower; ammunition tubes.	Iron	11	8	14	Teak	19-15	One barbette tower forward, one aft, 9" to 10" thick; iron.	
In barbette towers. In broadside.	Two 2d cl.	1,180	1,200	1,180	Belt 112"; 4 barbette towers; conning tower; ammunition tubes.	do	10	7	1	do	10	One barbette forward, one aft, one each side in waist, 9" thick; compound. Coal protection, surrounding boilers and engines.	
Same as Impérieuse.	do	1,100	1,300	1,180	do	do	10	7	1	do	10	Do.	
In barbette towers. In broadside.	do	1,428	2,154	1,428	Belt 140"; 3 barbette towers; bulkheads; conning tower; ammunition tubes.	Compound	18	8	1	do	17-10	Barbette towers, 10" to 11 1/2" thick; compound.	
In barbette towers. In broadside.	(1)	5,300	(1)		Same as Collingwood.	do	18	8	1	do	17-10	Barbette, 10" to 11 1/2" thick; compound.	
Same as Rodney.	(1)	(1)	5,300	(1)	do	do	18	8	1	do	17-10	Do.	
In barbette towers. In broadside; 2 have bow and stern fire.	One 2d cl, one 4th pl. et.	2,000	4,100	2,000	Belt 158"; 3 barbette towers; conning tower; ammunition tubes.	do	18	8	1	do	18-12	Barbette, 12" to 14" thick; compound. Coal protection, 9" thick along wing passages, 2 1/2" thick elsewhere, in forward and aft of machinery.	
In barbette towers. In broadside.	Two 2d cl.	(1)	5,300	(1)	do	do	18	8	1	do	18-12	Do.	
Same as Comperdown.	(1)	(1)	5,300	(1)	do	do	18	8	1	do	18-12	Do.	
In turrets.		1,430	2,600	1,430	Belt complete; turrets; breastwork; conning tower.	Iron	13	8	14-11	do	18-18	Two turrets, 12" and 14" thick.	
In forward turret. In after turret.	Two 2d cl.	1,688	3,064	1,430	do	do	12	8	14-11	do	18-18	Do.	
In turrets.		1,428	2,272	1,428	do	do	14	11	14-1	do	18-15	Two turrets, 14" thick. Coal protection; protecting boilers and engines.	
In turrets. On spar deck.		300	2,322	(1)	do	do	13	9	14-11	do	18-16	Two turrets, 18" to 11" thick.	
In turret. In broadside, upper deck.	One 2d cl, one 4th pl. nae.	6,800	6,808	3,400	Belt 90"; citadel; turrets; conning tower.	do	24	16	1	do	25-17	Two turrets placed diagonally in citadel, 12" and 10" thick; compound. Coal protection; protecting boilers and engines.	
In turrets. On superstructure, fore and aft fire.		3,372	3,472	1,736	do	do	18	15	1	do	18-9	Same as Inflexible, but steers very badly.	
Same as Ajax.		3,372	3,472	1,736	do	do	18	15	1	do	18-9	Do.	
In turret. 2 on superstructure; 2 aft in superstructure, with stern fire.		1,428	1,628	300	Belt complete to near stern; turret; citadel; conning tower.	Compound	12	9 1/2	1	do	13 1/2-9	One turret forward, 12" thick; compound. Coal protection; protecting boilers and engines.	
In turret. On upper deck.	(1)				Similar to Conqueror.	do	12	9 1/2	1	do	13 1/2-9	Same as Conqueror. Coal protection; protecting boilers and engines.	

ENGLAND—Continued.

Name of ship.	Descriptive and explanatory remarks.	Crew, officers and tons.	Maximum trial speed.	Dimensions.					Battery.			
				Length.	Breadth.	Draught aft.	Displacement.	Number.	Caliber.	Type.	Kilowatt (horses of wrought iron at machinery).	
												Knots.
Turret armored ships—Continued.												
Colossus	Steel, 1882; improved type of Intexible; two steel signal masts; protective deck, 3" thick, steel; condition good.	396	*16.5	325 0	66 0	26 3	8,150	4	12	43-ton B. L.		
								2	6	B. L.		
								2	6	do		
								1	6	do		
Edinburgh	Steel, 1882; sister ship; condition good.	396	*17.2	325 0	66 0	26 3	9,150	4	12	43-ton B. L.		
								2	6	B. L.		
								2	6	do		
								1	6	do		
Menowen	Steel, battle-ship; one turret; breastwork and partial belt 170 long amidships; all protected by 19" compound armor; transverse bulkheads at the belt ends, armor 19" thick; superstructure containing broadside battery 150' long is protected on sides by 8", and at ends from raking fire by 6" compound armor, and by transverse bulkheads between the guns 3" thick; protective deck, extending over citadels to each end of ship 3" thick; five above water torpedo ports and four below water; building.	430	*15.5	340 0	70 0	27 3	10,500	2	16.25	110-ton B. L.		
								12	6	B. L.		
								1	9.2	do		
Sanapareil	do	430	*15.5	340 0	70 0	27 3	10,500	2	16.25	110-ton B. L.		
								12	6	B. L.		
								1	9.2	do		
Casemate armored ships.												
Andacious	Iron, sheathed; 1880; battle and cruising ship; bark rig; belt and casemate; condition good.	462	13.6	380 0	54 0	23 8	6,010	4	9	M. L.	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
Invincible	do	462	13.6	380 0	54 0	23 8	6,010	4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
Iron Duke	Iron, 1870; do	462	13.6	380 0	54 0	23 8	6,010	4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
Swiftsure	Iron, sheathed; 1878 type of Andacious and class; condition good.	478	13.75	380 0	55 0	26 1	6,010	4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
Triumph	do	478	13.82	380 0	55 0	26 7	6,640	4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
								4	9	do	10.4	
								8	4	B. L.		
								6	9	M. L.	10.4	
Sultan	Iron, 1870; battle-ship; ship rig; condition good	683	14	325 0	50 6	27 11	9,300	4	8	B. L.	15.9	
								7	4	do		
								6	2.2	do	17.3	
Alexandra	Iron, 1875; battle-ship; ship rig; protective deck over belt, 1 1/2" and 1" thick; condition good.	674	15	335 0	62 8	26 6	9,400	3	11	25-ton M. L.	14	
								2	10	18-ton M. L.	12.9	
								8	4	B. L.		
								8	10	18-ton M. L.	12.9	
Superb	Iron, 1875; battle-ship; ship rig; built for Turkey; iron deck over belt, 1 1/2" thick; condition good.	680	13.7	323 1	50 0	26 5	9,170	4	10	do	12.8	
								6	4	B. L.		
								12	10	18-ton M. L.	12.9	

*Official estimates.

foreign ships of war—Continued.

ENGLAND—Continued.

Battery.	Torpedo boats.	Weight of fire.			Armor.					Decking.		Remarks.
		Ahead.	Broadside.	Astern.	Distribution.	Material.	Maximum thick- ness.	Minimum thick- ness.	Skln.	Mat- erial.	Thick- ness.	
In turrets.....	One 2d cl.	3,156	3,156	3,656	Similar to Indefatigable	Compound	In. 18	In. 14	In. 1	Teak	22-10	Two turrets placed diagonally in citadel, 16" thick; compound.
On forward superstructure, broadside.												
On forward superstructure, fore and after fire.												
On after superstructure, after fire.												
Same as Colossus.....	do	3,156	3,156	3,656	do	do	18	14	1	do	22-10	Do.
In turret.....		3,900	4,520	520	Belt 17"; one turret.	do	18			do	10-6	One turret, 18" thick; compound
In broadside.												
Pivot aft on superstructure.												
Same as Renown.....		3,900	4,520	520	do	do	18			do	10-6	Do.
Broadside, upper deck.		1,200			Belt complete; casemate 39" on gun-deck, 22" on spar-deck.	Iron	8	6	1 1/2	do	10-8	
Do.												
Broadside, main deck.		1,478			do	do	8	6	1 1/2	do	10-8	
Same as Audacious.....		1,450			do	do	8	6	1 1/2	do	10-8	
Do.												
Broadside, upper deck.		1,200			Similar to Audacious	do	8	6	1 1/2	do	10-8	
Do.												
Broadside, main deck.		1,450			do	do	8	6	1 1/2	do	10-8	
Do.												
Broadside, main deck.		300	1,500	350	Belt complete; casemate 34" on gun-deck, 22" on spar-deck.	Iron	9	6	1 1/2	do	12-10	
In chase, upper deck; 2 bow, 2 stern fire.												
Broadside, stern fire.												
Broadside, main deck; 2 forward guns, nearly bow fire.		1,914	2,872	820	Belt complete; casemate 75" on gun-deck, 44" on spar-deck.	do	12	6	1 1/2	do	12-10	
On upper deck, bow and beam fire.												
On upper deck, stern and beam fire.												
On upper deck, broadside.												
On main deck, broadside; 3 forward guns bow fire.												
In chase, upper deck.	Two 2d cl.	820	3,355	820	Belt; casemate 111' long.	do	12	7	1 1/2	do	12-8	
Broadside, upper deck.												
Broadside, in casemate.												

ENGLAND—Continued.

Name of ship.	Descriptive and explanatory remarks.	Crew, officers and men.	Maximum trial speed.	Dimensions.					Battery.			
				Length.	Breadth.	Draught aft.	Displacement.	Number.	Caliber.	Type.	Power (horses or weight from at main).	
Osennals armored ships—Continued.												
Belleisle.....	Iron, 1878; small type battle ship; brigantine rig; built for Turkey; deck over belt, 3", 2", 1", thick; condition good.		Knots.	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	Ft. in.	Tons.	Inch.				
Orion.....	Iron, 1879; small type battle ship; brigantine rig; built for Turkey; deck over belt, 3", 2", 1", thick; condition good.		12.2	345 0	52 0	21 1	4,270 4	13	25-ton M. L.	12.9		
Belted cruisers.												
Northampton.....	Iron; sheathed; 1878; belted cruiser; unprotected broadside; protected from raking fire and chine-guns protected by bulkheads with wings; bark rig; protective deck, 3", 2" thick, iron; condition good.		13.17	280 0	60 0	35 9	7,630 4	10	18-ton M. L.	12.3		
Nelson.....	do		14.65	280 0	50 0	26 8	7,630 4	10	18-ton M. L.	10.4		
Shannon.....	Iron; sheathed; 1878; belted cruiser; armor on water-line; unprotected broadside; protected from raking fire by bulkhead forward; protective deck, 3", 1 1/2", 1" thick; bark rig; condition good.		13.25	300 0	64 0	23 6	5,900 2	10	18-ton M. L.	12.8		
Orlando.....	Steel; belted cruiser; battery unprotected; curved protective deck entire length 3' and 2' steel, over top of belt; dipping below water forward and aft of belt; 4 above water torpedo tubes on protective deck; train 90° from within 10° of fore and aft line; 4 fixed below water tubes to forward compartment; 2 fire 45° on bow; 2 fire abaft; 2 masts; armored tops; building; to be completed in 1887.		17.5	300 0	56 0	22 6	5,000 2	8 2	18-ton B. L.	19		
Undaunted.....	do		17.5	300 0	56 0	22 6	5,000 2	8 2	18-ton B. L.	19		
Australia.....	do		17.5	300 0	56 0	22 6	5,000 2	8 2	18-ton B. L.	19		
Narcissus.....	do		17.5	300 0	56 0	22 6	5,000 2	8 2	18-ton B. L.	19		
Galates.....	do		17.5	300 0	56 0	22 6	5,000 2	8 2	18-ton B. L.	19		
Turret coast defense ships.												
Glanton.....	Iron, 1871; single turret; breastwork; monitor type; battle ship for coast defense; deck, 3" thick, iron; condition good.		12.11	245 0	54 0	19 3	4,910 2	12	do	13.9		
Cyclops.....	Iron, 1871; similar type (double turret); deck, 1 1/2" thick, iron; condition good.		10.7	225 0	45 0	16 4	3,480 4	10	18-ton M. L.	12.3		
Gorgon.....	do		11	225 0	45 0	16 4	3,480 4	10	do	do		
Hecate.....	do		10.6	225 0	45 0	16 4	3,480 4	10	do	do		
Hydra.....	do		10.9	225 0	45 0	16 4	3,480 4	10	do	do		
Rupert.....	Iron, 1872; breastwork turret; ram, free-board increased by unarmored superstructure on deck; deck, 3", 2" thick, iron; schooner rig; condition good.		13	250 0	58 0	23 7	5,440 2	8 2	B. L.	17.3		
Torpedo rams.												
Polyphemus.....	Steel, 1883; ram; low free-board; turtle-back superstructure; has 3 torpedo tubes; carries 40 14" Whiteheads; condition good.		17.85	240 0	40 0	21 3	2,040		Machine guns			
Not named.....	Steel; similar to Polyphemus; building.		17.5	270 0	40 0	19 9	3,250 3	5	B. L.	8.7		
Unarmored cruisers with protective decks.												
Comus, and eight others of class.	Iron and steel; sheathed; 1878-'81; ship rig; protective deck 1 1/2" steel over machinery and magazines; water-tight compartments between protective deck and deck above; steel shutters for hatches; sail well; poop, top-pull forecastle; condition good; 3 masts rigged.		13 to 14	225 0	44 6	18 6	2,380 2	6	do	11.9		
						19 2	10 6	6	do			
							3 7	7	M. L.	7.7		
							12	12	64-pdr. M. L.			

* Official estimates.

