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Dock Landing Ship - LSD

Description

Dock Landing Ships support amphibious operations including landings via Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC), conventional landing craft and helicopters, onto hostile shores.

Background

These ships transport and launch amphibious craft and vehicles with their crews and embarked personnel in amphibious assault operations.

LSD 41 was designed specifically to operate LCAC vessels. It has the largest capacity for these landing craft (four) of any U.S. Navy amphibious platform. It will also provide docking and repair services for LCACs and for conventional landing craft.

In 1987, the Navy requested \$324.2 million to fund one LSD 49 (Cargo Variant). The ship differs from the original LSD 41 by reducing its number of LCACs to two in favor of additional cargo capacity.

Point Of Contact

Office of Corporate Communication (SEA 00D)
Naval Sea Systems Command
Washington, D.C. 20376

General Characteristics, *Harpers Ferry* Class

Builder: Avondale Industries Inc., New Orleans, LA.

Date Deployed: 7 January 1995 (*USS Harpers Ferry*)

Propulsion: Four Colt Industries, 16 Cylinder Diesels, two shafts, 33,000 shaft horsepower.

Length: 609 feet (185.6 meters).

Beam: 84 feet.

Displacement: 16,708 tons (16,976.13 metric tons) full load.

Speed: 20+ knots (23.5+ miles per hour).

Crew: Ships Company: 22 officers, 397 enlisted; Marine Detachment: 402 plus 102 surge.

Armament: Two 25mm MK 38 Machine Guns, Two 20mm *Phalanx* CIWS mounts and Six .50 cal. machine guns, two Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) mounts.

Landing/Attack Craft: Two Landing Craft, Air Cushion.

Ships:

[USS Harpers Ferry \(LSD 49\)](#), San Diego, CA

[USS Carter Hall \(LSD 50\)](#), Little Creek, VA

[USS Oak Hill \(LSD 51\)](#), Little Creek, VA

[USS Pearl Harbor \(LSD 52\)](#), San Diego, CA

General Characteristics, *Whidbey Island* Class

Builder: Lockheed Shipbuilding, Seattle, Wa. - LSD 41-43

Avondale Shipyards, New Orleans, LA - LSD 44 - LSD 48.

Date Deployed: Feb. 9, 1985 (*USS Whidbey Island*)

Propulsion: Four Colt Industries, 16 Cylinder Diesels, two shafts, 33,000 shaft horsepower.

Length: 609 feet (185.6 meters).

Beam: 84 feet.

Displacement: 15,939 tons (16,194.79 metric tons) full load.

Speed: 20+ knots (23.5+ miles per hour).

Crew: Ships Company: 22 officers, 391 enlisted; Marine Detachment: 402 plus 102 surge.

Armament: Two 25mm MK 38 Machine Guns; Two 20mm *Phalanx* CIWS mounts and Six .50 cal. machine guns, two Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) mounts.

Landing/Attack Craft: Four Landing Craft, Air Cushion.

Ships:

[USS Whidbey Island \(LSD 41\)](#), Little Creek, VA

[USS Germantown \(LSD 42\)](#), Sasebo, Japan

[USS Fort McHenry \(LSD 43\)](#), Little Creek, VA

[USS Gunston Hall \(LSD 44\)](#), Little Creek, VA

[USS Comstock \(LSD 45\)](#), San Diego, CA

[USS Tortuga \(LSD 46\)](#), Sasebo, Japan

[USS Rushmore \(LSD 47\)](#), San Diego, CA

[USS Ashland \(LSD 48\)](#), Little Creek, VA

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