

30-ton Ship's Boat

by Loren K. Wiseman

The 30-ton Ship's Boat is ubiquitous throughout charted space, and is manufactured by many different companies in numerous configurations. Practically any shipyard can do modifications on the basic 30-ton hull, and the individual variants are almost without number. This publication deals with five of the more common variants found throughout the Imperium and beyond.

Ship's Boat

As the name suggests, the most common use of this particular small type of vessel is as an auxiliary craft for a larger vessel or installation. The standard configuration incorporates a two-seat flight deck with positions for a pilot and a flight engineer, a fresher for use by the crew and any passengers, an airlock, standard avionics and control packages, fuel tanks, a combined passenger/cargo bay (with six tons of cargo space and spacious accommodations for six passengers), and a maneuver drive rated for up to 6Gs.

The engineering section is not normally manned while in flight – the flight engineer monitors its operation from the FE station in the cockpit.

The standard configuration is intended for short jaunts lasting less than 12-16 hours. On-board life support is good for considerably longer than that, but no provision is made for extra crew or the long-term comfort of the crew or passengers.

In most variants, the cockpit and engineering sections are identical, and their descriptions are not repeated unless something changes significantly.

Emergency exit panels are located on the boat's dorsal and ventral surfaces, every two

meters – these are explained in more detail in the engineering section.

The deck plans presented in this booklet are numbered rather than labeled, to allow referees to change the coding and show the plans to their players without giving away any secrets (such as the locations of the emergency exits).

Cockpit

The cockpit consists of the area forward of the airlock and fresher, and is separated from the remainder of the vessel by a pressure tight sliding door which can be locked for security purposes.

1. Avionics: A standard avionics package is fitted to all models (passive and active sensors, comms, and navigation systems).

2. Pilot's Station: The pilot occupies this station during flight.

3. Flight Engineer's Station: The flight engineer monitors all systems from this station during flight.

4. Supply Lockers (P/S): The two supply lockers in the cockpit contain standard emergency gear, including tools and spares, two rescue balls, and basic first aid and survival supplies. Crew are expected to provide their own vacc suits (but see *Engineering*).

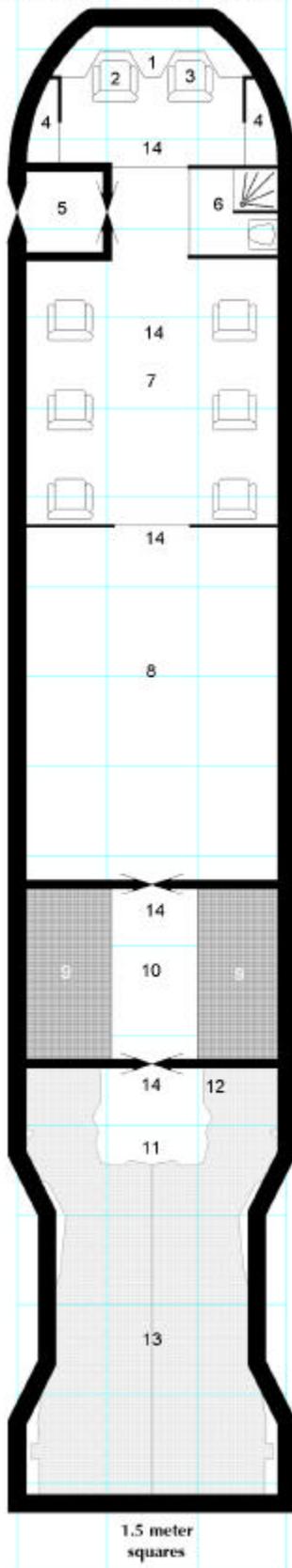
Passenger/Cargo Section

The passenger section and cargo sections can be reconfigured by adding or deleting passenger seating as need dictates.

5. Airlock: The airlock can hold up to six normal-sized humans at one cycle.

6. Fresher: A standard fresher containing a shower, toilet, and washbasin (which folds into the wall above the toilet).

30-ton Ship's Boat - Standard Configuration



7. Passenger Seating: A common variant replaces the spacious passenger seating (accommodating six passengers) with more compact seating (for up to 20 passengers) at a slight reduction in cargo capacity. A less common variation uses cramped seating to accommodate 96 passengers, although these types are usually used on short runs (from surface to orbit or from one orbital installation to another).

Each seat incorporates a standard rescue ball for use by the occupant in an emergency. Seats are also adjustable (within limits) to accommodate a wide variety of human and non-human body types, including allowance for tails and a variety of dorsal protuberances.

8. Cargo Bay: Cargo is limited to that which can fit through the airlock and down the corridor between seats, unless an optional cargo (non-airlock) hatch is fitted leading directly into the cargo section. Vessels with this fitting normally load while inside a larger bay or add an additional bulkhead and sliding door between the passenger and cargo compartments.

Fuel Section

9. Fuel Tanks (P/S): The boat's fuel tanks are conventional Lhyd tanks, normally refilled through standard fittings on the port, starboard, dorsal, and ventral sides. Some variants of the 30-ton ship's boat have a fuel skimmer installed at the expense of part of the passenger/cargo sections.

10. Access Hallway: This passage connects the cargo and engineering sections, and has pressure-tight doors at both ends. Both of these doors can be locked for security purposes.

Engineering Section

Engineering contains standard tools and spares for the life support and drive machinery, extra air tanks and a OSFA (one-size-fits-all) vacc suit for emergency EVAs (in case none of the crews' suits are functional), and two more rescue balls.

11. Crew Access: This space allows maintenance access to life support machinery and maneuver drive monitoring instruments. It is used for in-flight monitoring and maintenance by the flight engineer.