

Name: Sienar Fleet Systems TIE/D Defender

Type: Space Superiority Fighter

Scale: Starfighter

Length: 7.2 Meters

Skill: Starfighter Piloting - TIE

Crew: 1

Crew Skill: Starfighter Piloting 6D, Starship Gunnery 5D+2

Consumables: 2 Days

Cargo Capacity: 100 Kg

Hyperdrive Multiplier: x1

Hyperdrive Backup: No

Nav Computer: Limited to four jumps

Space: 12

Atmosphere: 560; 1,680kmh

Maneuverability: 4D

Hull: 3D

Shields: 2D

Sensors:

Passive: 25/1D

Scan: 40/2D

Search: 60/3D

Focus: 4/3D+2

Weapons:

Heavy laser cannons (8)

Fire Arc: Front

Fire Control: 4D

Space: 1-3/12/25

Atmosphere Range: 100-300/1.2/2.5km

Damage: 6D

Warhead launchers

Fire Arc: Front

Fire Control: 2D

Space: 1/3/7

Atmosphere Range: 50-100/300/700

Damage: Missiles 7D / Proton Torpedoes 9D

Tractor beam projector (1)

Fire Arc: Front

Fire Control: 2D

Space Range: 1-5/15/30



Atmospheric Range: 2-10/30/600 m

Damage: 4D

Description: The TIE/D Defender, commonly known as the TIE Defender, was an advanced experimental TIE line starfighter manufactured by Sienar Fleet Systems for the Imperial Navy of the Galactic Empire. Unlike previous TIE models, the starfighter featured a hyperdrive as well as deflector shields, and was easily recognized by its three wings mounted around an aft section of the cockpit. These specifications made the fighter much more difficult to destroy than standard TIE fighters.

The TIE Defender was considered a fighter-bomber; it was armed with heavy cannons and missiles. The ship was introduced as a result of Grand Admiral Thrawn's new fighter initiative at the Imperial Factory on Lothal in the year 2 BBY, launched to deal with the growing rebel threat, and was supported by both Grand Moff Wilhuff Tarkin and Emperor Palpatine. As the project was to be less expensive than Project "Stardust", and due to the constant delays of Director Orson Callan Krennic, many Imperials started to consider use the fundings of Project "Stardust" for Thrawn's TIE/D Defender instead. However, after Governor Arihnda Pryce destroyed Lothal's fuel depot to kill Jedi Knight Kanan Jarrus, the project was halted indefinitely.

Although it never saw widespread use during the Galactic Civil War, many of its design features were later incorporated into the TIE/sf space superiority fighter and TIE/vn space superiority fighter of the First Order, the Empire's successor.

Characteristics

Like the rest of the TIE line starfighters, the TIE/D Defender featured a ball-shaped cockpit module and solar array wings. However, while the standard TIE/ln space superiority starfighter and many other TIE variants, including the TIE/IN interceptor and the TIE Advanced x1, had two parallel wings to either side of the pilot module, the TIE/D Defender had three wings mounted around an aft section of the cockpit. It also included deflector shields and a hyperdrive, new features for TIE fighters. The fighter was too fast for Y-wing starfighters and armed with eight heavy laser cannons and missiles—causing high damage over a moderate area. Some TIE/Ds featured red markings on their wings, similar to some elite TIE interceptors.

As development of the TIE Defender progressed, a new, faster and stronger variant was produced, which was classified as the TIE Defender Elite, with the prototype being tested by Commander Vult Skerris. The speed and maneuverability of this craft was drastically increased compared to the earlier Defender prototypes, along with stronger shields, better hyperdrive, and the addition of six missiles mounted onto the wings.

Stats by FreddyB, descriptive text from WookiePedia

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