



Orbit Shuttles are common small craft for shuttling people between ships in orbit. Larger than a Worm, but more suited for use in civilised areas.

Overview

There are many types of orbital shuttles, but one of the most common is that designed by Saud-Kruger AstroDesign. Many local governments have a license for building their own variations on this design. For the most part, variations are simply in the layout of the seating, and use of the cargo hold.

Unlike a Worm, an Orbital Shuttle is designed only for use in controlled environments. It has no proper airlocks, and is not designed for the interior to be opened to vacuum. This means that it requires a full environmentally sealed docking bay to land and take off from, or at least a proper ship-to-ship connection port.

Though it will float, it is not rated for landing on water.

The standard model can carry up to 18 passengers for short duration trips of no more than a few hours. This is enough to get from orbit to a planet's surface, or around a local moon system, but interplanetary travel is not recommended.

It has no weapons, and no attachment points for external weapons are included in the design.

Crew

The shuttle requires just a single pilot. No provision is provided for remote operation.

Higher class models do exist which include steward facilities, but they are not provided as standard. Passengers are expected to bring their own sandwiches and bottled drinks if required.

Common Roles

Public Shuttle

Shuttles are most often used in the role of a public passenger shuttle, with some facilities for light cargo as well. They are a cheap way of getting around a planet, or between craft in orbit.

Their high visibility windows also make them useful for sight seeing tours.

Private Shuttle

They are sometimes purchased for use as private shuttles. In these cases the interiors tend to be much more plush, or even fitted out with a private stateroom or two.

Source: Elite (1984)

Company: Saud-Kruger AstroDesign

Technology Level: 10

Total Tonnage: 20t

In Service Date: 750

Cost: MCr3.465

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TECHNICAL BRIEFING

TL 10	Orbit Shuttle	TONS	COST
Hull	20t streamlined hull	-	1.2
M-Drive	Thrust 3	0.6	1.2
Power Plant	Fusion Power Planet, 10	1	0.5
Fuel	2 weeks operation	0.5	-
Bridge	Cockpit	1.5	0.01
Computer	Computer/10 (TL9)	-	0.16
Sensors	Basic	-	-
Weapons	-	-	-
Systems	Acceleration Seat x18 Common Areas	9 2.4	0.54 0.24
Software	Manoeuvre, Intellect, Library	-	-
Cargo		5	-

Crew

1 Pilot

Hull: 8

Costs

Maintenance Cost

Cr 289 / month

Purchase Cost

MCr 3.465

Power 5

Basic Systems

4

Manoeuvre Drive

6

