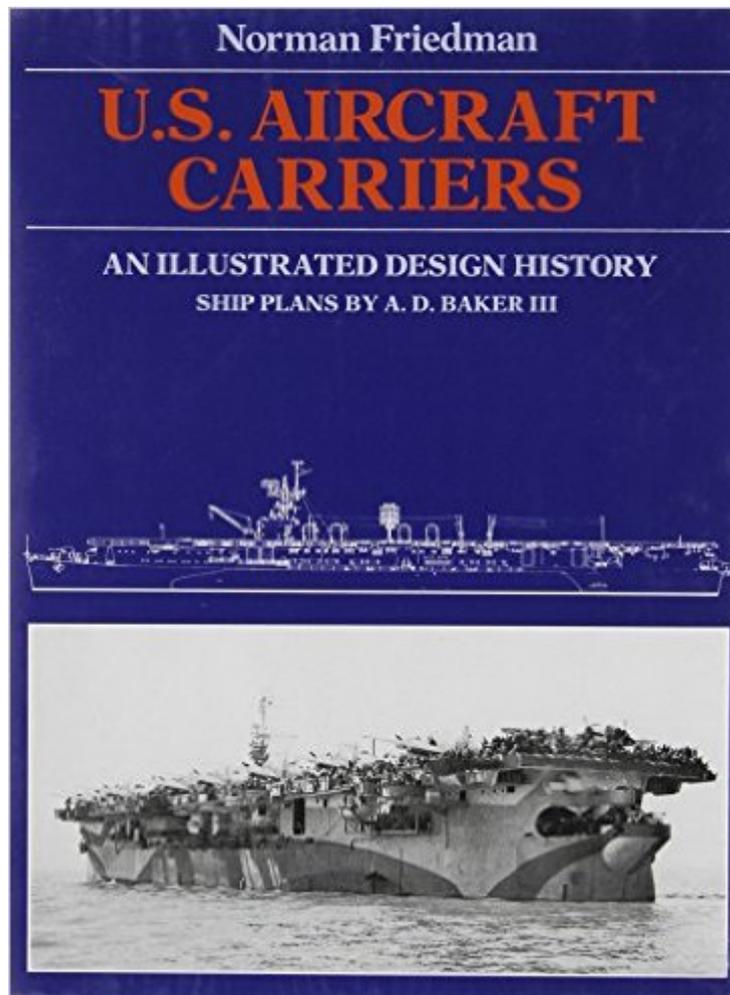


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# U.S. Aircraft Carriers: An Illustrated Design History



## Synopsis

This fully illustrated series offers detailed descriptions of the evolution of all classes of the principle U.S. combatant types, as well as plans, profiles, and numerous detailed photographs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Along with Friedman's other books on the main classes of U.S. combatant ships (Battleships, Cruisers, etc.), this book must be considered as the greatest book ever on the development, construction, battle performance, and redesign of U.S. Carriers ever published. Lavishly illustrated with photographs and drawings, "U.S. Aircraft Carriers" has the added value of being very readable--and enjoyable. For every class of carrier built during the century, Friedman assembles a mountain of data concerning the thoughts that went into the design and building of each class. Friedman reveals not only the military necessities that each carrier attempted to cover, but the international and political pressures that also figured into each design. What emerges is a very large book, but one that is very well constructed from the best materials. I've owned my copy of this book for approximately 20 years, and with average care, the book appears virtually brand new. What is so interesting when reading this book was how American designers, after the creation of the experimental "Langley," immediately hit upon the formula for all future American battle carriers with the Lexington and Saratoga. Each was very large and fast, and could carry a very large air group. The U.S. has, on occasion, built smaller carriers for specific purposes when tiny, inexpensive types were all that was needed, or as in the case with the Independence class, the need for hulls was so

great that partially built ships were hurriedly converted and performed Yeoman duty. In fact, the U.S. has gotten tremendous value for its investment in carriers. The Essex class ships from WWII were rebuilt several times to fit a number of needs, and were remarkably successful.

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