



USS Midway by the Numbers

Flight Deck Operations

- Flight deck personnel during flight ops: 250
- 1,500 feet: total length of arresting wire on board
- 1,800 feet of anchor chain aboard
- 1,001 feet long: Over 3 football fields
- 340 feet the length of the runout when a plane lands
- 258 feet wide
- 220 feet to the top of the mast
- 4,000+ pad eyes on flight deck and hangar deck (to secure aircraft)
- 55 feet: elevation of flight deck off the water (today)
- 3½ inches of steel armor in the flight deck

Landing

- 45 seconds: the time between landings day time, 60 seconds at night
- Successful landings: 95% day, 88% at night
- Aviators had to be 12 feet off the deck as they passed the round-down in order to catch a wire
- The actual landing area for jets was about the size of a tennis court
- 100 landings: expected lifespan of flight deck arresting cables
- 1: number of landings more than 15 feet off centerline that would require the cable to be replaced

Launching

- Catapult power: 0 to 170 mph (150 knots) in 3 seconds or less
- 90 seconds between launches
- Catapult length: approx. 265 feet

Ship Structure

- 69,000 tons full load
- 190,000 pieces in the flight deck
- 4.02 acre flight deck
- 30,000 light fixtures
- 2,000 compartments
- 1,500 telephones
- 156 pounds: each anchor chain's link
- 20 tons: weight of each anchor
- 4 propellers: two 4-bladed props weigh 21.7 tons and are 18' 8" across. Two 5-bladed props weigh just 19.7 tons and measure 17' 6" across.
- 12 boilers and 4 high-pressure/low-pressure turbines
- 18 decks, equivalent of a 20-story building
- 35-foot draft under water in 1991. Today it's about 29 feet.

- Flight elevators: 130,000 pound capacity, up to flight deck in 15-20 seconds

Speed & Fuel

- Speed (approximate)
 - 33 knots = 38 miles per hour
- aircraft landing speed: 150 knots = 172 mph
- aircraft could land about every 45 seconds
- Midway went so fast you could water ski behind it
- 4 turbines produced a combined 212,000 horsepower
- 3.5 million gallons of ship & aviation fuel
- 100,000 gallons consumed daily in the ship's boilers.
- Fuel economy: approximately 260 gallons to the mile (or about 20 feet per gallon) at 15 knots
 - 900 gallons per mile at 30 knots

Crew

- Average sailor age: 19
- 200-300 aviators
- (4,200-4,300 others worked so the others could fly)
- Approx. 650 men in engineering
- Approx. 225 cooks
- Approx. 30 corpsmen
- 40 commanding officers in 47 years
- 3 chaplains

Logistics

- 10 tons of food per day
- 13,000 meals a day
- 10,500 cups of coffee at a time
- 4,500 pounds of beef per meal when served
- 3,000 pounds of potatoes per day
- 1,000 loaves of bread a day
- 500 pies when served
- Desert Storm: 35,000-40,000 dozen eggs in route to Midway at any given point in time
- 198 pounds of dry laundry in each of 6 washing machines
- 1,725 the maximum rpm of the washing machines
- 350 degrees: maximum temperature of the washing machines
- 4,752 pounds of laundry could be washed every 12 hours
- 43,000 pounds of laundry per week
- 1,075 40-pound laundry bags weekly
- 2,000,000 pounds of laundry annually
- Food storage
 - 1 butcher shop
 - 2 bakeries
 - 1 vegetable prep room
 - 15 storerooms
 - 5 freezers

- 4 chill boxes
- Capacity
 - 70 tons of food
 - 10-11 tons consumed daily
 - 14,000 pounds of chicken
 - 14,400 pounds of grill steaks
 - 16,000 pounds of coffee
 - Daily cost of feeding crew in 1976: \$10,000

Underway Replenishment

- 1-2 times per week
- Supply ship sailed alongside, about 150-200 feet from Midway
- Sailing at 10-15 knots
- 100 tons of dry cargo per hour
- Approx. 12,000 gallons/minute of fuel through 4 hoses

Other

- Parts inventory: 54,000 for aircraft, 36,000 for ship \$85.6 million original cost
- 90 tons of blueprints to build in 1945. Equals the weight of about 35,500 reams of paper.
- \$100 million in spare parts inventory
- \$42 million monthly payroll
- 80,000 haircuts annually
- 280,000 gallons of freshwater produced daily

Note: Given Midway's long service, some statistics varied over the years. This list is representative overview (with some figures rounded off or approximated) of the USS Midway's service life.

Sources: Docent Manual, various USS Midway and U.S. Navy documents.

Updated Oct. 13, 2017