



Alabama Public Television Education

The USS Alabama Fact Sheet

The USS Alabama is a World War II battleship that served with distinction in both the Atlantic and the Pacific, earning nine battle stars and the Navy Occupation Service Medal Pacific. In the spring of 1962, the Navy made the decision to scrap the ship, but the state of Alabama asked to have the ship as a memorial to the Alabamians who had served in the United States armed forces. After an almost three-month journey from Seattle, Washington, and through the Panama Canal, the distinguished battleship arrived in Mobile Bay on September 14, 1964. USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park opened to the public on January 9, 1965. Alabama school children helped bring the Alabama home by donating funds for her transport. Everyone who donated received a USS Alabama Charter Member card, good for a lifetime membership.

Nickname: The “Mighty A”; the USS Alabama never lost a man to enemy fire and was therefore also known as the “Lucky A.”

Launch: 16 February 1942

Commissioned: 16 August 1942

Length: 680 feet

Weight: 42,500 tons when fully loaded, 25,000 tons when empty

Propulsion System: Boilers and Turbines

Propellers: Four

Speed: 28 knots

Armament: 129 guns

- 52 - 20 MM guns
- 48 - 40 MM guns
- 20 - 5"/38 caliber guns
- 9 - 16"/45 caliber guns

Crew: 2,500 men during wartime, 1,793 during peacetime

Notable moments

- Led the American Fleet into Tokyo Bay on Sept. 5, 1945, after the surrender of the Japanese

For More Information:

USS Battleship Memorial Park

<https://www.ussalabama.com/>

Encyclopedia of Alabama

[http://encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-2958#:~:text=The%20USS%20Alabama%20\(BB%2D60,to%201945%2C%20earning%20numerous%20citations.](http://encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-2958#:~:text=The%20USS%20Alabama%20(BB%2D60,to%201945%2C%20earning%20numerous%20citations.)

Alabama Legacy Moment

<https://www.alabamalegacy.org/uss-alabama/>

Children's Campaign

<https://www.thisisalabama.org/2018/07/09/state-came-together-save-uss-alabama/>

Read More

USS Alabama: Hurray for the Might A!, Karen Tunks (Pelican Publishing, 2015) (ages 8-12)

USS Alabama, Kent Whitaker (Arcadia, 2013)

IMAGES

USS Alabama Charter Member card

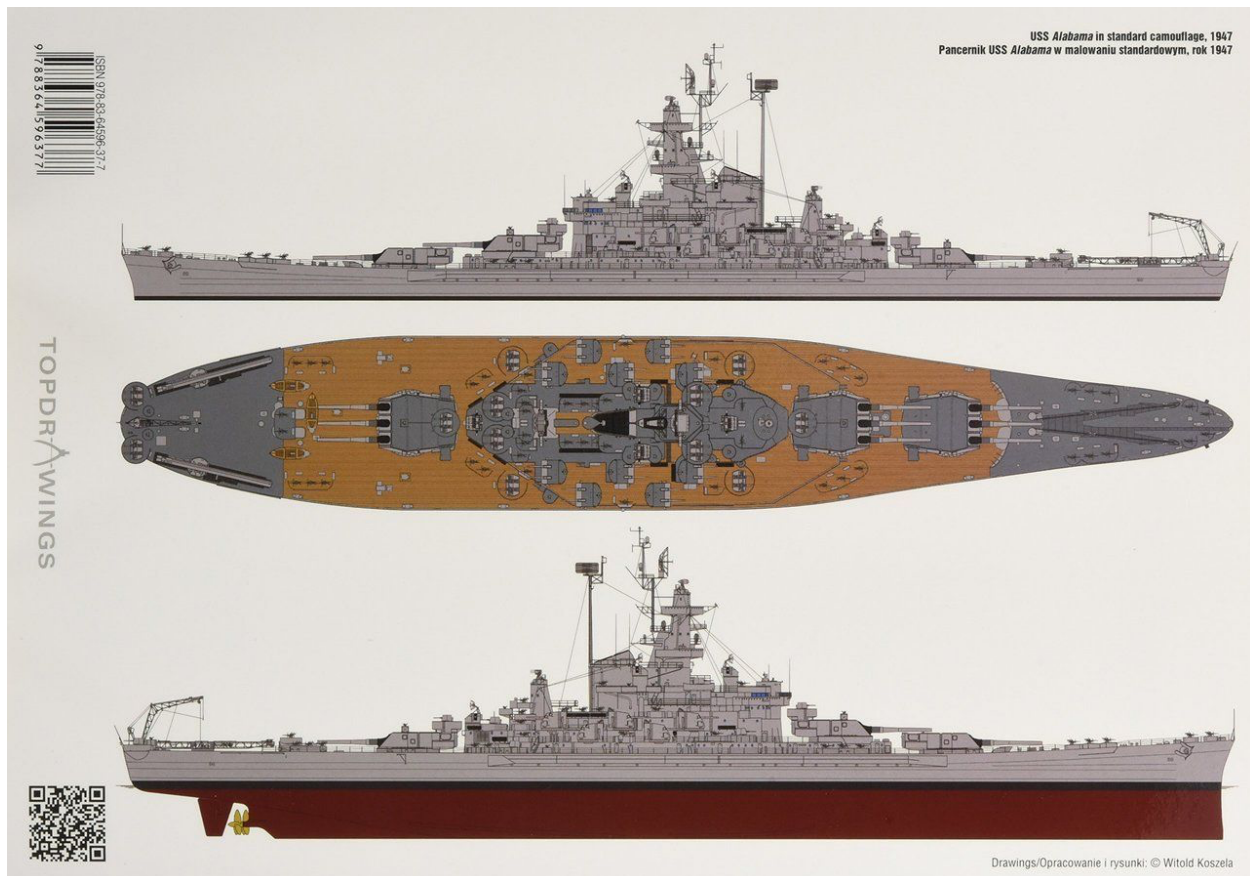


Young Supporter



<http://www.ussalabama.com/explore/uss-alabama-battleship/>

Views of Ship



https://www.google.com/search?q=cutaway+of+uss+alabama+battleship&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwjX-PSka7wAhUJ0IMKHciYB0cQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=cutaway+of+uss+alabama+battleship&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQA1DheVi3hQFg2psBaABwAHgAgAFfiAHmBJIBATiYAQCgAQGgAQtn3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=YUCQYJfLA4mkzwLIsZ64BA&rlz=1C1WNCB_enUS886US887#imgsrc=rOQqIOfUfbMdoM