NIGHTINGALE

LENGTH: 320 METERS
LAUNCHED: 24th C
CREW: 56
WEAPON: PHASERS
## NIGHTINGALE

**Stand assembly:**
Attach the stand to the back of the ship.

### NIGHTINGALE

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### NIGHTINGALE

**SPECIFICATION**

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<tr>
<th>Operated By:</th>
<th>THE KRA YLOR</th>
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<tr>
<td>Type:</td>
<td>MEDICAL TRANSPORT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Operation:</td>
<td>2370s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>DELTA QUADRANT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length:</td>
<td>320 METERS (APPROX.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crew:</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaponry:</td>
<td>PHASERS</td>
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The Nightingale was a medical transport ship operated by a Delta Quadrant species called the Kraylor in the 2370s. It was a fairly standard-looking starship, and nothing about its outward appearance suggested it was used for humanitarian purposes. It looked more like a small combat ship, but it was easily outmatched by the warships used by the Annari.

The Nightingale appeared to be a medical supply ship, but it was in fact testing a new cloaking device. It was almost impossible for supply ships transporting food and medicine to reach the planet's surface. Their world was protected by a shield grid, which prevented the Annari from launching an invasion force, but the Kraylor population was slowly being starved into submission.

The Kraylor did manage to bypass the blockade in one or two ships, including the Nightingale. This vessel was originally given the rather generic name of "medical transport 136" before Harry Kim took command of it.

**BASIC SHIP**

It was a fairly unremarkable ship both in appearance and abilities. It was approximately 320 meters in length and originally had a crew complement of 56. The main body of the ship was comprised of blocky, squared-off components, with a substantial raised section on top that contained the bridge. Downward sloping wings were affixed to the warp nacelles, which were attached to either side of the main body. The nacelles glowed orange, and were capable of powering the ship to a cruising speed of warp 6.

The Nightingale possessed several banks of phasers and was protected by defensive shields, but its defensive capabilities were rather limited and no match for the Annari vessels. Other facilities on board the Nightingale included a shuttlebay, escape pods, a dedicated

DATA FEED

Although his name was not mentioned on screen, according to the script the name of the original commander of the Nightingale was Captain Brell.

The Delta Flyer II saved the Nightingale from destruction when it fought off an attack from an Annari warship. Harry Kim was reluctant to involve himself in their conflict, but he believed that he was saving the lives of a crew who were on a mission of mercy.
The most interesting feature of the Nightingale, however, was a prototype cloaking device. It had been developed at a secret off-world base under the leadership of a Kraylor scientist named Loken and several of his assistants. Loken hoped that if the cloaking device proved successful, it would allow them to fly straight through the blockade around their planet and deliver much needed supplies. The cloaking device was effective, but it proved less than reliable due to power fluctuations within the ship’s propulsion system, and it required constant attention to stop it from destabilizing.

In 2377, the Nightingale’s cloaking device failed and it came under attack by an Annari vessel. It issued a distress call which was picked up by Harry Kim, Seven of Nine and Neelix aboard the Delta Flyer II. Normally, the Prime Directive would have prevented them from becoming involved in an alien conflict, but the Kraylor vessel claimed to be on a humanitarian mission delivering medical supplies. It was also clear that with its shields having failed, it would soon be destroyed and Kim took the decision to neutralize the Annari ship.

**MERCY MISSION**

Kim found out that 29 people had been killed in the attack, and the survivors pleaded with him to help them make repairs and take command. The survivors, including Loken, said that they were doctors and medical personnel, who had been charged with delivering new vaccines to their homeworld. Kim felt that he could not turn them down and he persuaded Captain Janeway to allow him to take command of the Nightingale.

When Kim realized he was in direct violation of the Prime Directive, he ordered the Nightingale to reverse course, but the Kraylor crew mutinied and relieved him of command. In the end, Kim realized that they would never survive without his help, and despite serious reservations he helped them evade the blockade, and the cloaking device was safely delivered to the Kraylor homeworld.

**DATA FEED**

Loken was the lead Kraylor scientist, who developed and fitted the cloaking device the Nightingale. He lied to Harry Kim, saying that he and the other survivors on board the ship were doctors and members of a research team that were carrying new vaccines to their homelands. Loken knew that as scientists with little combat experience, they stood a much greater chance of reaching home if Kim took command of their ship.
The command center of the Nightingale was not too dissimilar to that of many Starfleet ships, although much more basic and plain. It was a roughly circular room with the captain’s chair in the middle and a viewscreen at the front. The helm console was a single work station near the front, which was operated from a standing position. It incorporated the primary navigational sensors and auto-navigation facilities. Other consoles situated in the bulkhead walls around the perimeter of the bridge were equipped with display screens and touch-sensitive controls. They operated systems such as tactical and life support.

The work station at the rear of the bridge had a number of functions, including monitoring shipwide power, operating long-range sensors and activating the communication systems.

The rear work station also incorporated the controls for the ship’s most important system – its cloaking device. This piece of technology had been developed at a secret off-world base under the leadership of a Kraylor scientist named Loken and several of his assistants. It was new and being tested for the first time on a starship, and as a result was not that reliable. Any power fluctuations within the propulsion system could cause the primary cloaking generator to fail, making the ship visible to their Annari enemies.

When the Nightingale’s cloaking device went offline, it was because its primary generator was failing. The field polarity of the generator had fallen to 206.4, which was much too low. To raise it, they had to bypass the driver coil and shunt power directly to the polaron matrix. This repolarized the containment field and brought the cloak back online.

Harry Kim renamed the Kraylor medical transport Nightingale after Florence Nightingale, who was renowned for nursing wounded soldiers on Earth. Kim thought it an appropriate name because he believed the ship was delivering much needed vaccines and medicines to the sick on the Kraylor homeworld.
A starship originally design by Jim Martin to be a Federation attack fighter was modified by CG artists in order to turn into the Nightingale.

The Nightingale was a CG model created by effects house Foundation Imaging. Its appearance was very closely based on the physical studio model of what was originally a Maquis fighter created for THE DEEP SPACE NINE episode ‘The Maquis, Part II.’

This ship was designed by Jim Martin, and it was one of his first creations after he joined the DEEP SPACE NINE art department. He went on to become a senior production illustrator, but at that time he was still a production assistant, and his main responsibilities were helping out production designer Herman Zimmerman and scenic artist Doug Drexler, as well as making sure the art department was always stocked.

As one of the youngest members of the art department, Martin was influenced by the fighter craft designs seen in the Star Wars franchise. His design certainly ended up being different than a traditional STAR TREK creation with outriggers and prominent warp nacelles. In fact, this design would form the basis on what would become the U.S.S. Defiant NX-74205, but a version of it was also chosen to represent a Maquis fighter, and it appeared again as the same vessel in THE NEXT GENERATION episode ‘Preemptive Strike.’ At the time, THE NEXT GENERATION and DEEP SPACE NINE were on TV concurrently, so these appearances were broadcast just two weeks apart.

The studio model was built at Tony Meininger’s Brazil-Fabrication & Design model shop, and after its outing in ‘Preemptive Strike’ it appeared once more in the DEEP SPACE NINE episode ‘A Time to Stand.’

The CG version of the Federation attack fighter was then created at effects house Digital Muse by CG artist Bruce Banit for the DEEP SPACE NINE episode ‘Sacrifice of Angels.’ He had the physical studio model in front of him while he was doing it, and tried to replicate it as closely as possible.

Later, this CG model provided the basis for the look of the Kraylor medical transport, which Harry Kim renamed Nightingale. It was modified at Foundation Imaging, and the CG artists built up the area around the cockpit, turning it into a much more substantial bridge area. Other changes included altering the bow of the ship, the area behind the bridge, and beefing up the warp nacelles. Finally, it was given a new paint job and the engines now glowed orange rather than blue.

The CG ship in this configuration was seen for a final time in the VOYAGER episode ‘The Void,’ when it, rather confusingly, appeared as an Annari warship commanded by General Valen. Why a design established as a Kraylor vessel would then have been known as a Federation attack fighter that had been stolen by the renegade group, is not clear. In other words, although it was first seen as a Maquis fighter, it really should have been a Federation attack fighter that had been stolen by the renegade group.

The CG version of the Federation attack fighter was then made by the CG artist Bruce Banit for the DEEP SPACE NINE episode ‘Sacrifice of Angels.’

The studio model that was built by the model shop owned by Tony Meininger used Jim Martin’s concept as the jumping off point for a fighter starship. It then appeared as a fighter operated by the Maquis, and then in this picture, it became a Federation attack fighter in THE DEEP SPACE NINE episode ‘A Time to Stand.’

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Looking back on his early days as Harry Kim, Garrett Wang recalled he found him an easy character to get into. He said, “Kim was an easier character to start off with, I think, because he was the youngest member of Starfleet on the crew, so by nature he was a little more naive than the rest of them – which kind of went hand in hand with myself at the time. But I did have to take away a few layers. When I started playing Kim I was probably three or four years older than he was supposed to be, so I had to go down in my maturity level a little bit.”

That doesn't mean Wang saw young Harry as a replica of himself. “Other than the fact that he was young and the fact that he was a hard worker – that was where the similarity probably ended,” said Wang. “I thought Kim was much more serious than myself. I really enjoy making people laugh and entertaining people, whereas Kim was a little more serious about his work. And his sense of humor wasn’t exactly where I wanted it to be, so throughout the seasons I tried to get the writers to inject a little bit more humor into him.” Those attempts weren't 100 percent successful, despite the fact that Wang tried to introduce a few sneaky touches. “A lot of times that we tried to do anything a little more risky, they'd tell us to pull it back,” said Wang. “They’d say, ‘Don’t do that!’ But in the later seasons, whenever Kim was in the background of a scene, I would do a few little reactions to things that were going on around me. Watch his eyes – that’s the best way I can say it.”

Wang regretted not having had more to do with Robert Beltran [Chakotay] on screen, despite the starring roles they both had in ‘Timeless,’ trying to prevent Voyager's accident in the past. “There really wasn’t a lot of Chakotay-Kim interaction other than the standard Chakotay asking for a status report, that was about the extent of it,” said Wang. “We didn’t have any really in-depth conversations. I think Kim and the Doctor had some good scenes together, and Kim and Janeway, and Kim and Kes, and Kim and pretty much everybody, but the Kim-Chakotay relationship I didn’t think was ever really fleshed out as much as it could have been.”

Wang was also very sorry that Harry and Seven of Nine never got it together, despite a few hints during Seven’s early days aboard ship. “I didn’t like the fact that they really dropped the ball with Kim and Seven,” said Wang. “When Seven was young, and then Seven called his bluff and offered copulation. Kim turned that down – like a fool! – and then all of a sudden the Doc had a crush on Seven. I suggested to the writers that they should have a B storyline where Kim was competing with the Doctor for Seven’s attention, which would have been very funny.”

Despite the lack of a permanent meaningful romance, over the seven years Wang enjoyed seeing some growth for the character. “Kim got to
have seen Kim in some more action scenes: the three things I always pushed for were action, humor, and getting the girl. They just kept focusing on getting the girl for a while, and they were getting the wrong girl, so I told them, "OK, that's enough romance for Kim!"

**EPISODE HIGHLIGHTS**

Wang does have plenty of favorite shows, however. "I enjoyed 'Fair Haven' and 'Spirit Folk' because it was set in an Irish town and I got to wear something different, and filming location was always fun," said Wang. "And I guess 'The Chute' has always been a favorite of mine, along with 'Timeless.' " Ashes to Ashes" was the big Kim one for Season Six, and 'Memorial' was not bad either - that was when we came across the war memorial that made everybody hallucinate as if they were in the war during the massacre. And the last season there was 'Nightingale.'"

Amazingly, the original plan for this episode was for Kim to leave Voyager and head off with the Kraylor. This would have meant Wang not featuring in the final season until he would have been brought back for the finale. In the end, this strategy was re-thought, especially as the actors' contracts meant that they would have been paid, even if they did not feature in an episode. In other words, Wang would have continued to be paid the same rate, despite not appearing in 14 episodes. "It would have been a great vacation for me," said Wang. "But I don't think the other cast members would have been too happy! That was probably why that never happened."

If Wang had left the series for a short time, at least he would not have had to wear the Starfleet uniform, which he found very uncomfortable. This was why he always welcomed shooting on location, as it usually meant a different costume. This was why the two 'Fair Haven' shows were particularly popular. "It was almost like when you went to school and they'd tell you, 'OK, today we're having a field trip, we're going to the zoo,'" said Wang. "That was how it felt, because we got a chance to finally get out of that Starfleet uniform and actually be a little more relaxed. The uniforms were physically uncomfortable because they were only made to fit correctly when you were standing up. You couldn't really lift your arms above shoulder level, which was awkward. There was padding through-out, which I thought was unnecessary, and, also, when you were sitting down it really pulled in the catch area! Over the years, I must have split 15, or 20 suits in the seat."

**UNTOLD STORIES**

Wang may have had a few disappointments, but he acknowledged it was hard to get to everybody. "They’d talk about ideas and they sounded great, and then all of a sudden they ended up not doing them for one reason or another," said Wang. "They didn’t do an evil Kim/regular Kim episode. I think everyone got a chance to do that except for Kim. And it would have been nice to maybe have had an episode where they went back into Kim’s childhood and revealed some kind of dark secret, but they didn’t do that either."

"But then again it was very difficult to do justice to all nine characters, I think nine was probably too many for an ensemble show. If I was running a television show, I would cap it at six - I think that’s the ideal number of characters that you can give adequate storylines to throughout a season. Also, nine times out of 10, when people came in to pitch they would pitch storylines for the same characters. They’d pitch a Doctor story, they’d pitch a Seven of Nine story, and that was mainly because those characters were much easier to write for than the human characters.

It was just so much easier to write for somebody who was trying to be more human - you know, in this episode Seven of Nine discovered how to socialize, next episode she discovered how to date, and next episode she learned how to have a sense of humor. That’s not to say it was not entertaining, but I’m saying, ‘Don’t always take the easy road: try to take the tough road once in a while, and find a storyline for the humans.’"

**CATCH-22 STORYLINES**

Wang recognized, though, that the Starfleet ideal basically meant that nobody could behave badly. "Yeah, and that’s not reality," said Wang. "The closest they got to someone playing the bad side would be Paris, being the rebel and plucked out
wished to be a member of the crew. But again the cop-out with Paris was, any time they tried a storyline with him they would have to rely on the holodeck. So, once again, I don’t think that human characters get the best storylines.

STILL PROMOTIONLESS

Fans of the show will know that Wang was very disappointed that Harry Kim still only had one pip. He was not soothed by the finale, where he was promoted, demoted, remoted; Paris gets an automatic field commission from nothing to captain, although this was only in an alternate future, and he was back down to ensign three times. Of course, Wang was always pushing to do more action-orientated scenes, and the crew believed that they had participated in a traumatic conflict.

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BEHIND THE SCENES

Wang was always pushing to do more action-orientated scenes, and he got his wish in Season Six’s ‘Memorial,’ where he was promoted, demoted, remoted; Paris gets an automatic field commission from nothing to captain, although this was only in an alternate future, and he was back down to ensign three times. Of course, Wang was always pushing to do more action-orientated scenes, and the crew believed that they had participated in a traumatic conflict.

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ON SCREEN

TRIVIA

Harry Kim was famous for his failed romances. He had a girlfriend named Libby before he was swept to the Delta Quadrant on the U.S.S. Voyager. Despite his continued feelings for Libby, he had a long-held infatuation with Starfleet Academy classmate Lyndsay Ballard (pictured) and he became involved in a love affair with Varo engineer Darran Tal. He also developed crushes on crewmate Megan Delany, a holographic character named Marayna, and even Seven of Nine, shortly after she first came on board.

The lead Kraylor scientist who developed the cloaking device for the Nightingale was named Loken and he was played by Ron Glass. The actor is perhaps best known for his role as Detective Ron Harris in Barney Miller, which ran from 1975 to 1982. More recently, Glass starred in Firefly, another sci-fi series, as Shepherd Derrial Book.

The episode ‘Nightingale’ was directed by Leloir Burton, who of course starred in THE NEXT GENERATION as Geordi La Forge. Burton actually holds the record among cast members for directing the most episodes of STAR TREK, having helmed 29 instalments over three STAR TREK series.

First Appearance: ‘Nightingale’ (VOY)

Key Appearance

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

‘Nightingale’

Harry Kim, Seven of Nine and Neelix are scouting for dilithium in the Delta Flyer II. Suddenly, they find themselves amid weapons fire when they receive a distress call from a Kraylor ship, which is about to be destroyed.

Kim is reluctant to get involved, but at the urging of Neelix he saves the Krayor vessel. Its grateful occupants say their ship is merely a medical transport and they are trying to return home with vaccines. They ask Kim to command their ship, the Nightingale, as all the officers on board were killed in the attack, and the survivors are all medical personnel.

Kim renames the Kraylor ship, the Nightingale, but his first command does not go well. First, Kim micromanages the crew, and when it comes under attack again, he realizes he has been deceived. The ship is actually equipped with a prototype cloaking device, and the crew are engineers and scientists who invented it. They want to use the cloak to get supplies to their homeworld, which has been under a blockade by the Annari for three years.

Kim knows he has broken the Prime Directive, and realizes that leadership is much harder than he expected. Nevertheless, he tries to lead the ship safely back to the Kraylor homeworld.

KEY APPEARANCE

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

‘Nightingale’

First Appearance: ‘Nightingale’ (VOY)

TV Appearance: STAR TREK: VOYAGER

Designed By: Jim Martin

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Inside your magazine

- In-depth profile of the Fesarius, a huge 23rd-century vessel described as the flagship of the First Federation and operated by Commander Balok
- How the Fesarius, first designed by Matt Jefferies, was updated as a CG model for the remastered edition of the episode ‘The Corbomite Maneuver’
- A look back on the STAR TREK work of Matt Jefferies, the art director throughout THE ORIGINAL SERIES

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