



# Australia’s General Purpose Frigate



## What we’ve done

The Australian Government has selected the upgraded Mogami-class frigate as the preferred platform for the Royal Australian Navy’s future fleet of general purpose frigates.

The upgraded Mogami-class frigate is built by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI), whose tender proposal best met Australia’s capability requirements and best demonstrated value for money for the taxpayer.

This decision was informed by a rigorous, transparent competitive tender process.



## What’s next

Defence will now enter the next stage of the procurement process with Japan.

This process will finalise the government-to-government arrangements for the first three frigates to be built in Japan.

The first frigate is scheduled to be delivered to Australia in 2029, and operational in 2030.



## Why this is important

This project is part of the Australian Government’s \$55 billion investment over the decade to more than double the size of the Navy’s surface combatant fleet.

The frigates will replace the Anzac-class frigates and will be equipped for undersea warfare and local air defence so they can secure maritime trade routes and our northern approaches.

Alongside the Hunter-class frigates, the upgraded Hobart-class destroyers, and advanced missile investments, the general purpose frigates will equip the Navy with a larger, more lethal surface combatant fleet to meet Australia’s strategic circumstances.



Upgraded Mogami-class frigate artist’s impression

## Upgraded Mogami-class frigates Capabilities

- Maritime Combat Helicopter:** The frigate will employ a maritime combat helicopter, able to employ antisubmarine weapons and sensors and anti-surface missiles.
- Anti-Submarine Warfare:** Fitted with an Active/Passive Towed Array Sonar, the frigate is capable of detecting modern submarines.
- Self Defence:** The combat management system, surface-to-air missiles and close-in-weapons, provide a layered point defence system, able to protect itself and nearby escorted vessels.
- Land and Maritime Strike:** Fitted with anti-ship missiles, the Mogami-class can deliver over-the-horizon strike against both maritime and land based targets.
- Force Protection:** The main gun and remote controlled weapons provide protection against asymmetric surface and air threats.

Country of Origin	Japan
Designer	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries
Operated by	Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force
Length	142 metres
Displacement	6,200 tonnes (full load)
Beam	17 metres
Speed	30+ knots / 56+ km/h
Range	Up to 10,000 Nautical miles
Crew	90 with accommodation up to 138
Propulsion	Combined Diesel and Gas (CODAG) 1 x Gas Turbine 2 x Diesel engines
Systems	Towed Array Sonar Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Radar Electronic Countermeasures Advanced Tactical Data Links
Weapons	32 Cell Vertical Launch System (VLS) Surface to Air Missiles Anti-ship Missiles 1 x 5 inch Main gun 1 x Short-Range Point Defence System
Aviation	1 x Maritime Combat Helicopter

## Procurement timeline

February 2024	May 2024	November 2024	August 2025	2025-2026	2029	2030
The Australian Government released its response to the Independent Analysis into Navy’s Surface Combatant Fleet, which recommends Australia acquire 11 general purpose frigates from one of five shipbuilders of exemplar frigate platforms.	Defence released an Approach to Market to the five shipbuilders of the exemplar frigate platforms.	The Australian Government down-selected one design from MHI, and two designs from Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (tkMS) for further consideration.	The Australian Government selects the upgraded Mogami-class frigate as the preferred platform for the general purpose frigates.	Defence enters the next stage of the procurement process with Japan.	First general purpose frigate is scheduled for delivery to Australia.	First general purpose frigate is scheduled to start operational service.