

Russia's flagship aircraft carrier

The *Admiral Kuznetsov*, a heavily-armed aircraft-carrying cruiser, serves as the Russian Navy's flagship. She was originally commissioned for the Soviet Navy in 1991 and became fully operational in 1995

Air defence armament: 24 vertical launchers for *SA-N-9 Gauntlet* missiles (range 12km), eight short-range gun / missile systems, eight 30mm AA guns

Island: Houses bridge, flight operations and phased-array radar

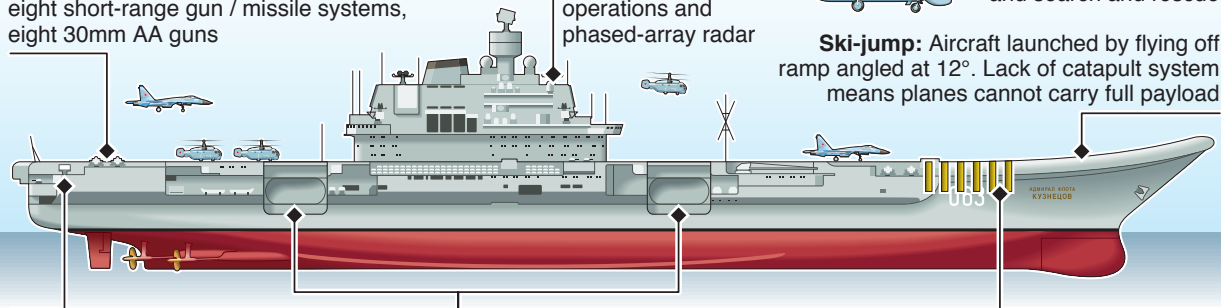
Aircraft: 26 *Su-33 Flanker* fighters – due to be replaced by *MiG-29K*



24 Ka-27 Helix helicopters – used for anti-submarine warfare and search and rescue



Ski-jump: Aircraft launched by flying off ramp angled at 12°. Lack of catapult system means planes cannot carry full payload



Anti-submarine armament: Twin rocket launchers can engage enemy submarines or torpedoes up to 3km away

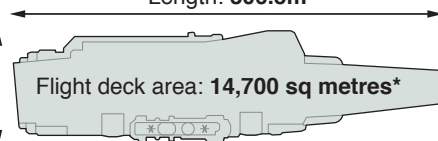
Two aircraft lifts
Move planes between hangar and flight deck

Anti-ship armament: 12 launch tubes below flight deck for *SS-N-19 Shipwreck* missiles. Can carry nuclear warhead and hit targets 600km away

Displacement	58,500 tonnes (fully loaded)
Propulsion	Four steam turbines (50,000hp each)
Maximum speed	30 knots (56km/h)
Range	15,700km at 18 knots (33km/h)
Complement	1,960 ship's crew, 626 aircrew, 40 flag staff

Length: 306.5m

Overall width
72.3m



Flight deck area: 14,700 sq metres*