

DragonFire laser to take down drones

Britain's Ministry of Defence is to install lasers on warships designed to shoot down drones from 2027. The low-cost DragonFire can hit a 25mm target from one kilometre away



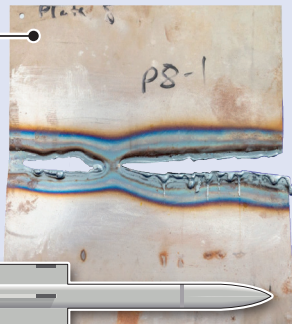
■ **DragonFire:** Laser-directed energy weapons (LDEWs) use intense beam of light to cut through their target.

Cost: £10 (€11.71) per shot

Unlimited shots as long as ship has power

■ **LDEW:** Metal plate showing damage caused by DragonFire laser weapon system

Beam heats up to more than 3,000°C in less than one second and burns hole in its target



■ **Sea Viper missile:** Shoots down Houthi drones in Red Sea at cost of £1 million (€1.17 million) each

