

# Israeli tanks and Hezbollah hardware

Israel's advance into Lebanon is dependent on the survivability of its new Merkava tank and the effectiveness of Hezbollah's anti-tank weapons. These enable Hezbollah to counter Israel's previously successful strategy of encircling pockets of resistance with armour before wiping them out

## Merkava Mk 4

Entered service 2004

Crew: 4  
Can carry 8 troops

7.62mm machine gun

Top, rear and underbelly are most vulnerable points. Sharp angle of hybrid turret armour improves protection

120mm smooth bore gun

Chain-ball skirting forces projectiles to detonate before striking tank

Vulnerable between turret and chassis

Skirt to protect tracks

Front mounted engine enables infantry to enter or exit from rear hatch

▲ **RPG-29** Russian-made rocket propelled grenade  
Effective range: 500m

Armour penetration: 600mm

▲ **AT-3 Sagger** Russian wire-guided missile  
Range: 3,000m  
Penetration: 400mm

▲ **Kornet-E** Russian laser-guided missile  
Range: 5,000m  
Penetration: 1,200mm

▲ **AT-4 Spigot** Russian-made  
Range: 2,000m  
Penetration: 500mm  
90% probability of first round hit

▲ **TOW** U.S.-made wire-guided  
Range: 3,000-3,750m  
Penetration: Up to 800mm

Sources: Jane's, CSIS, GlobalSecurity

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