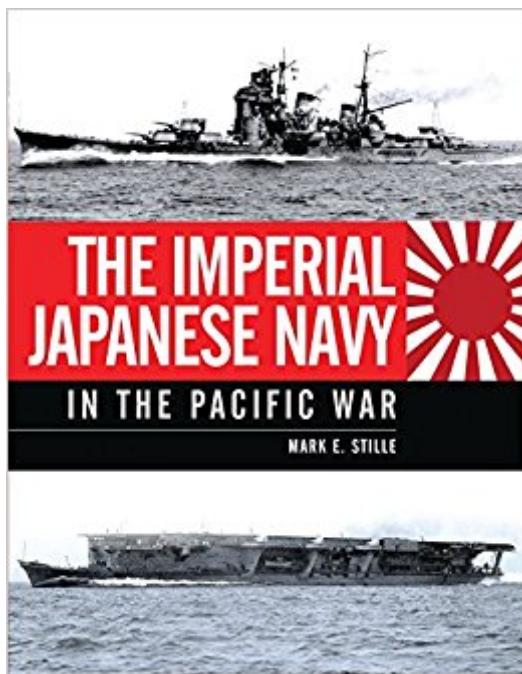


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# The Imperial Japanese Navy In The Pacific War (General Military)



## Synopsis

From the stunning victory at Pearl Harbor to its dramatic reversal at Midway, the Imperial Japanese Navy swept all before it in its numerous victories in the Pacific and Far Eastern waters. The Imperial Japanese Navy in the Pacific War pulls from many of Osprey's bestselling books on the subject in addition to the most recent research on the subject, including many sources from Japan, and is the most recent and accurate book on this fascinating force. Even after its setback at Midway, the IJN remained a powerful force and inflicted severe setbacks on the US Navy at Guadalcanal and elsewhere. The Imperial Japanese Navy focuses on the Japanese ships which fought the battles in the Pacific including design details, where and when they were engaged and their ultimate effectiveness. In addition, the construction, design and service history of each ship from destroyer size up is included. A comprehensive survey of the submarine force is also included.

Modifications of each ship are covered making this a valuable reference source for Pacific War enthusiasts and historians, as well as ship modelers. A short history of the IJN during the Pacific War places all warship design and history in proper context. Finally, a chapter discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the IJN is included ultimately asking the question of whether the IJN really was a modern Navy which was fully prepared for the rigors of combat in the Pacific.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

One of the first books to present the Japanese side of the war in the Pacific. Focusing on the reasons for Japanese success, it discusses the strengths and weaknesses in the army. It provides

insights into the workings of the Japanese high command. For anyone interested in World War II, this book is well worth reading. • • •  
Bowling Green Daily News • An encyclopedic study of the ships, men, aircraft, strategy and doctrine of the powerful navy that confronted the U.S. in World War II. This relentlessly factual volume is amply illustrated with period photos, maps, charts, diagrams, detailed color cutaway drawings, and original art. • • Military History Quarterly

Mark E. Stille (Commander, United States Navy, retired) received his BA in History from the University of Maryland and also holds an MA from the Naval War College. He has worked in the intelligence community for 30 years including tours on the faculty of the Naval War College, on the Joint Staff and on US Navy ships. He is currently a senior analyst working in the Washington DC area. He is the author of numerous Osprey titles, focusing on naval history in the Pacific. The author lives in Dunn Loring, VA.

I don't mind all that much but would not have felt deceived if that fact had not been withheld from the publisher's descriptions of it. Having purchased all but the volume on submarines, I now have that plus additional information on strategy, doctrine, overall analysis, and the corrections to the original individual volumes. Many of the photos and illustrations are larger, which makes up for those that are smaller. As it stands, this book will be a bargain over purchasing the 7 individual volumes since you could purchase it for what 3 of them would cost and have money left over. It has the same page size and takes up only a little more room in my library as compared to the combined set. It seems that Osprey has killed the individual volumes since at almost \$126 list price for the set this book gives the same updated content for \$40 in hardback. I was also glad to see that the author, Mark Stille, now holds the copyright instead of the publisher. Now with my bookshelves overflowing, I need to decide what to do with my six duplicates. Only having larger photos and illustrations in some cases bid me to keep them.

This is not a book for those who seek a narrative of campaigns or specific battles. Instead, it is a technical review of the development of Imperial Japan's warship types as the Imperial Japanese Navy envisioned their tactical usage in a naval war in the Pacific. As such, it is a very good, detailed read. For other readers, it would likely prove to be uninteresting. The development of the Imperial Japanese Navy began in the last decades of the nineteenth century, and followed the role model of the British Royal Navy closely. Still, after World War I, Japan was largely ignored as a potential power, although her fleet was subject to the same restrictions, but greater, as the Royal Navy and

the US Navy with the aim of preventing another large scale conflict. Given the restrictions that Japan accepted, it is remarkable that she made the great strides that she did before the Pacific War. This is a chronological and technical history of the development of each class of warship through the end of that war. Do not expect to read a sea yarn with blazing guns, torpedo attacks, or feats of naval aviation. Instead, enjoy a fairly scholarly review and interpretation of the creation and demise of one of the world's great navies.

This is a great overview of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) in World War II. This is less an operational history than an examination of the IJN's various ship types, from destroyers all the way up to carriers and super battleships like the Musashi and Yamamoto. The book is well-illustrated photos and diagrams as well as info-boxes full of ship and weapon data. It is a hefty book, and the author offers a brief history of the Pacific War to get things going, followed up a conclusion and analysis and a very brief bibliography. I bought this book both because of my interest in the Pacific War, and because of an interest in warships in general and also to provide some background to Wargamers' World of Warships, where players fight battles using ships of the pre-war and WWII era. This book contains pretty much all the information you will need to understand the ships of the IJN and how they were used, including not only what they were expected to do, but what they actually did. It will serve as an excellent resource as I read further books on the Pacific War, and I will keep is handy for just that purpose.

A good overview of what happened to just about every unit of the IJN in WW2. Not overly detailed, but no single volume covering this material could be. A note: I read this on the Kindle, but this is plainly a book that needs to be experienced in print - the Kindle cannot do the illustrations (many of which I have never seen before) justice.

I gave this a five based on what it is. It depends on what you are looking for whether you would agree. It is a five based solely as a book of excellent technical information concerning the IJN Fleet. It is somewhat like a encyclopedia of all the ships, their capabilities and a brief synopsis of their careers. I personally liked this a lot. On the other hand, if you are looking for a book on details of battles and cruises, it may not be what you are looking for. The information on the general actions of the fleet and its impact on the war, seem accurate, but are a broad stroke. Excellent quick history lesson, but not the level of detail you would be looking for. My five rating stands based on it being a wealth of information on the ships. It's valuable to keep around as a reference guide when you are

reading Pacific war history and want the rest of the story as you run across Japanese ship names.

The text is excellent, with histories of every ship in every class, plus technical details and excellent photographs (although there are no particularly good shots of my favorite, the cruiser Yubari). There are also tables and charts. These last expand nicely in the Kindle edition, but - at least as far as I could tell - the photographs and drawings of the ships do not. This is a shame, because the book is fairly large format and the photos and drawings are large and show much detail. Definitely get the book!

Anything you wanted to know about ANY ship in the Japanese navy is here. Very detailed. Tells of all aspects such as where it was built, why, the guns on board at each refit, action the ship sees, damage to the ship and all the other detail such as crew, length width etc. Amazing detail. The book goes into why the ship was built and the thinking of the Japanese navy. What it thought the need was and how each ship would fill the gap. It also goes into the many refits that happened as the war pressed on and the desperation to manufacture a win against the US Navy. If you really want to know a ship and where it sunk, this is the book

This compendium of individual Osprey titles is well written and illustrated. If you like Osprey titles you won't be disappointed. A real bargain over purchasing the Osprey New Vanguard titles that make up this book separately.

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