STAR TREK - LARSON-CLASS DESTROYER

LAYOUT: DECK 1 (BRIDGE)

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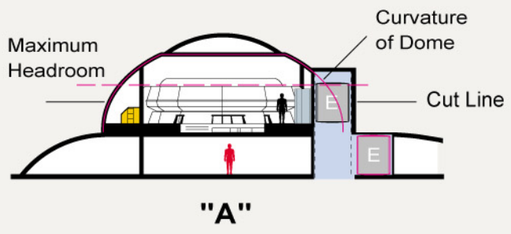
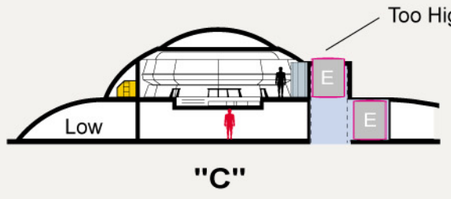
DRAWN BY: Jim Botaitis

If printed 17 inches tall (from black-outlined edge to black-outlined edge) the scale of these drawings is 1/350.

ORIGINAL BRIDGE

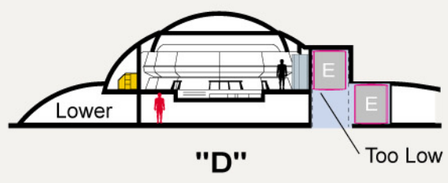


"A"

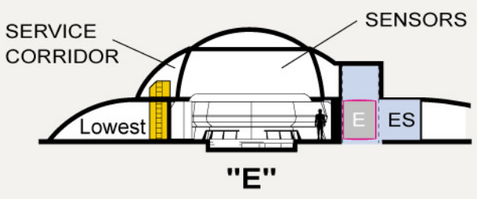


"C"

REVISED BRIDGE (3 possibilities)



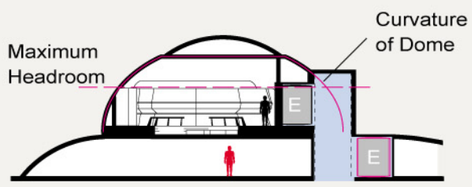
"D"

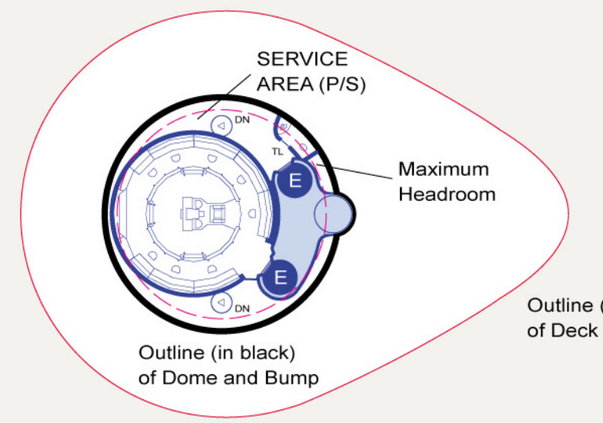


"E"

NOTES

ORIGINAL BRIDGE
The Bridge of the U.S.S. ENTERPRISE was intended to be under the dome on the studio model, as per the special effect in the first scene of THE CAGE. The original dome was taller. The bump aft of the dome

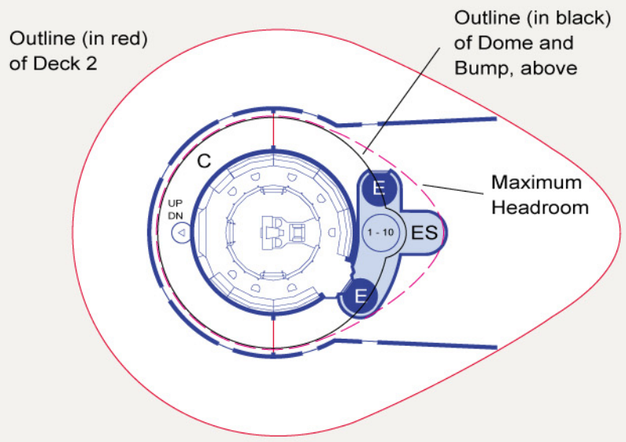




DECK 1: ORIGINAL BRIDGE ("B")

ORIGINAL BRIDGE (continued)
was also taller. A turbo-elevator car easily fits inside the bump even if the recessed floor of the Bridge is above the ceiling of Deck 2 (see "A"). However, the curvature of the dome does not allow a lateral turbo-elevator tube to fit behind the Bridge; the car has to remain inside the bump. Therefore, the Bridge has to be rotated 36° counter-clockwise.

A forward-facing Bridge CAN fit (see "B") but it has to be shifted toward the front. It is the only way a turbo-elevator car can fit under the curvature of the dome. This shift allows a lateral turbo-elevator tube and even a spare turbo-elevator car to fit behind the Bridge.



DECK 1: REVISED BRIDGE ("E")

REVISED BRIDGE (Low)
When the shape of the Bridge on the model was modified, material was removed from the bottom of the dome and the bump. The lower curvature of the dome's ceiling means the Bridge cannot be shifted forward. Placing it back in the middle means there is no space for a lateral turbo-elevator tube behind the Bridge, so the Bridge has to be rotated 36° to ensure the turbo-elevator car remains inside the bump. However, the material that was removed reduced the height of the bump too much. A turbo-elevator car no longer fit even if the recessed floor of the Bridge is dropped below the ceiling of Deck 2 (see "C").

REVISED BRIDGE (Lower)
If the main floor of the Bridge is also dropped below the ceiling of Deck 2, the turbo-elevator car does finally fit inside the bump. But, this makes the ceiling for most of Deck 2 too low. The Bridge is still rotated 36° but now the turbo-elevator car waiting inside the bump (to serve the Bridge) is too low, obstructing the shaft and preventing service to Deck 2 (see "D").

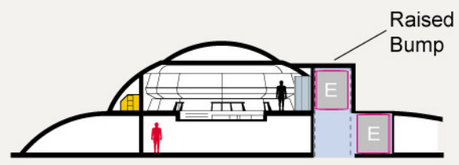
REVISED BRIDGE (Lowest)
If the Bridge is lowered all the way to Deck 2 a lateral turbo-elevator tube and even a spare turbo-elevator car fits (see "E"). But what of the dome? It could contain sensors and a service corridor . . . and now the Bridge is not as vulnerable, so all this might be a good thing.

In at least one episode, a character left the Bridge and a moment later a turbo-elevator car was available for another character to leave. Spare turbo-elevator cars must be stored somewhere close, very close.

The Bridge shown in "E" is used only in the U.S.S. ENTERPRISE Heavy Cruiser plans.

ALTERNATE BRIDGE CONFIGURATIONS
A simpler, more practical solution is to raise the bump slightly (see "F"). This is a good start. Extending the bump to the port side, or to both sides, is even better. Now a lateral turbo-elevator tube fits behind the Bridge.

The "Auxiliary Door" is optional, added here to satisfy what we see in the Animated Series. Think of it as being hidden behind the display panel to port of the main viewing screen.



MODIFIED BUMP ("F")

Such changes allow for smoother turbo-elevator operations, turbo-elevator storage spaces closer to the Bridge, and other (better, more logical) Bridge configurations. To the right are three such designs.
One of these is used in each of my starship blueprint sets.

v1.
A storage space for spare turbo-elevators exists to starboard. The bump is much bigger but is symmetrical.

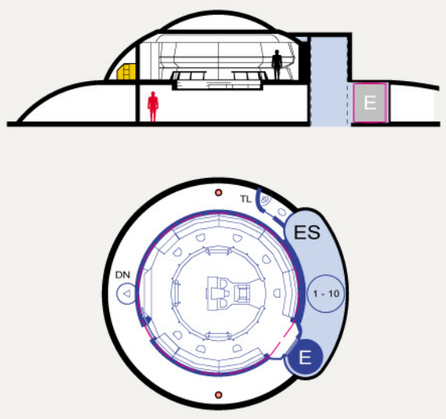
v2.
This second design minimizes the change to the size and shape of the bump but it is now asymmetrical.

v3.
The turbo-elevator storage space has been replaced by a second access

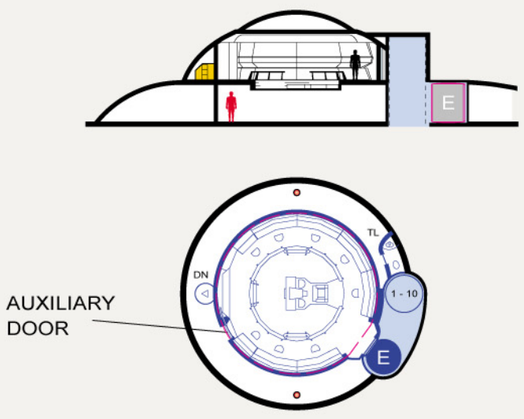
v3. (continued)
point for the Bridge. The stations have been re-arranged around the Bridge, but overall, one station has to be deleted.

In all these Bridge designs, access to the Service Corridor is via removable panels, or the auxiliary door, or the ladder.

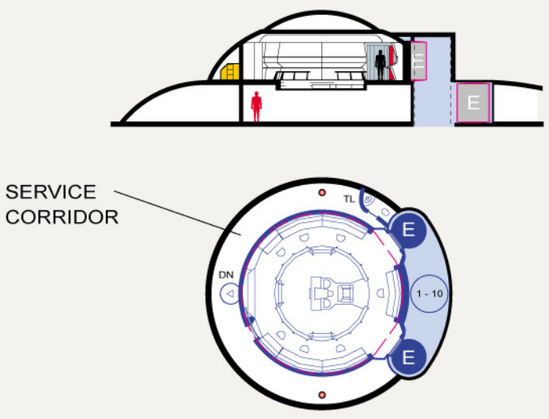
In all these alternate versions, the Bridge faces forward ... as it was always meant to be (in my humble opinion).



DECK 1: BRIDGE (v1)



DECK 1: BRIDGE (v2)



DECK 1: BRIDGE (v3)