

International Federation of Trekkers

IFT ACADEMY



The Borg

By

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THE BORG



*We are the Borg.
Lower your shields and surrender your ships.
We will add your biological and technological
distinctiveness to our own.
Your culture will adapt to service us.

Resistance is futile.*

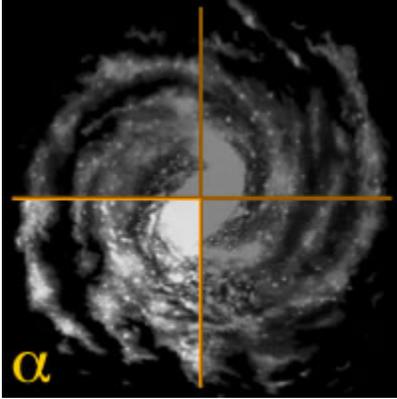


Introduction:

Those words have brought fear through out the Federation, if not the entire Alpha Quadrant. Since the first encounter with the Borg on Stardate 42761.3, it has been said, "Fear is a weakness, and knowledge is strength." With only one thing on the hive mind: the assimilation of worthy beings and technologies into the Collective. One needs to have all their assets, abilities, and knowledge available, if they intend not to become one of the hive mind. Through this course, you will study the history of the Collective, some of the theories of the origins of the hive mind, the Physiology and Psychology of the Collective, and some of the vessels that the Queen of the Borg has used against the entire galaxy.

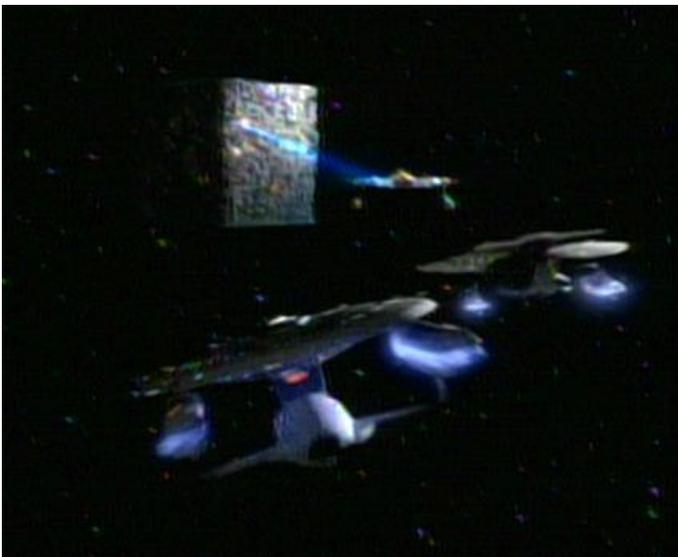
History of the Collective

In the Alpha Quadrant:



For a long time many at Starfleet Command have believed that, first contact with the Borg happened 42761.3 although, due to recent discoveries in Starfleet's historical database, that information is now up for debate. Reports from Captain Jean-Luc Picard of the USS Enterprise-E, after the Battle of Sector 001 suggests first contact may have happened around April 2063. Captain Picard reports suggest that the Borg sent a Borg Sphere though a temporal incursion shortly after the battle. The Sphere was destroyed in Earth orbit, after it attempted to interfere with Earth's first contact with the Vulcan survey ship, the T'Polana-Hath. It was assumed that the Sphere's presence had no impact on the timeline. Until recently unearthed records at Starfleet Headquarters, have revealed a further encounter with the cybernetic species. In 2153, scientists investigating unusual debris in the Earth Arctic Region reactivated two drones found preserved in the ice. It is believed that the two drones assimilated the science team and used an arctic transport to escape from Earth, intending to head to contemporary Borg space. The *Enterprise NX-01*, which at the time was the closest vessel to react, engaged and destroyed the vessel, but not before the drones, transmitted pulsar triangulation coordinates towards the Delta Quadrant. The message was anticipated to arrive at its destination some 200 years later, roughly 10 years before the first recorded contact with the Borg.

Although it is not clear whether the signal ever arrived, it is interesting to note that the Borg began to make incursions into the Alpha Quadrant in the 2350s. These early incursions left very little evidence but some people did begin to believe that a thus far unknown power was making its presence felt. The largest of these incursions occurred in 2364 when the Borg wiped out a series of Romulan and Federation outposts in Sector 30 and Sector 31 on the borders of the Romulan Neutral Zone.



Battle of Wolf 359:

Via these various contacts, the Borg was now fully aware of humanity and made their first serious attempt to assimilate the entire race in late 2366. On Stardate 43989.1, the USS Enterprise-D arrived at Jouret IV, after contact with the New Providence colony was lost 12 hours earlier. The colony was found to have been completely

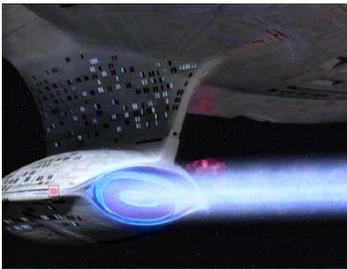
destroyed; it was literally scooped from the planet's surface.

Admiral J.P. Hanson and Lieutenant Commander Elizabeth Shelby of Starfleet Tactical arrived to investigate the disappearance. An away team, of Commander Riker, Lt. Commanders Shelby, Data, and LaForge, determined that the colony was wiped away by weapons similar to those found on the Borg cube encountered by the Enterprise-D in System J-25. Starfleet immediately began preparations for a possible Borg invasion.

Upon finding out about this information, Admiral Hanson returned to Starbase 324 to discuss strategy with Starfleet Command. Starfleet imposed a fleet-wide standing yellow alert, and warned all Federation and allied outposts, of a possible Borg attack. That evening at 1900 hours, the USS Lalo departed Zeta Alpha II on a freight run to Sentinel Minor IV. At 2212 hours, Starbase 157 received a signal from the Lalo, reporting contact with a cubical object. The signal was cut off mid-transmission, and no response was received to further hails.

When the Enterprise-D received this information, she set a course for the Lalo's last known location. With Starfleet reinforcements at least six days away, the Enterprise was on her own. En route to the coordinates, contact was made with the unknown vessel: a Borg cube. News was relayed to Admiral Hanson, who had begun to assemble a fleet at Wolf 359 to combat the invasion. The Borg demanded that Captain Jean-Luc Picard, beam himself aboard their vessel, for an unspecified purpose.

After a brief exchange of fire, the Enterprise retreated into the Paulson Nebula, with the Borg vessel close behind. Hiding in the cloud, the Enterprise, and her crew prepared for the inevitable conflict. Attempting to force the starship out, the Borg launched magnetometric-guided charges into the nebula, causing minor damage to the Enterprise. Captain Picard ordered the ship out of hiding, as the Borg who then left at high warp, en route to Sector 001. At the heart of the Federation in Sector 001 the Borg, captured Captain Picard. As acting Captain, Commander William Riker, planned to force the Cube out of warp in order to attack it using the Enterprise's deflector dish. An away team led by Lt. Cmdr. Shelby was sent over to the vessel, and succeeded in disabling the Borg's warp drive. In the process, it was discovered that Captain Picard had been assimilated by the Collective; he had been distorted into a Borg drone with the designation Locutus of Borg. Having momentarily disabled the Cube, the Enterprise launched its deflector weapon.



The Cube easily shrugged off the Enterprise's assault, with the unwilling aid of Picard's knowledge, and resumed its course to the Sol system. The Enterprise was forced to stay behind, having suffered extensive damage to its deflector array and warp core. In the meantime, Admiral JP Hanson and Starfleet Command had hastily assembled a fleet of 40 starships, with more on the way. The Klingon Empire was in the process of dispatching warships to assist, and the possibility of requesting Romulan support was considered.

Around Stardate 44002.3, the Cube entered the Wolf 359 system. Locutus hailed the assembled fleet, ordering them to disarm and escort the Cube to the Sol system. Immediately thereafter, the fleet engaged the Borg.

The USS Melbourne was the first ship destroyed, with its saucer section partially vaporized while approaching. The USS Saratoga was quickly neutralized subsequently. After mere minutes of combat, the fleet was faced with obvious defeat. Admiral JP Hanson attempted to rally the remaining ships to launch a final assault, but his ship was destroyed shortly after that, the admiral was and still is presumed dead.

Ultimately, 39 starships were lost with a total loss of more than 11,000 lives lost or assimilated. The USS Endeavour under the command of Captain Amasov was the only starship that escape the disaster. After the battle, Amasov reflected, "...It is my opinion that the Borg are as close to pure Evil as any race we've ever encountered."

Although the outcome of the invasion could have been much worse, the result of the battle was nothing short of disaster. With so many starships assigned to missions of exploration, Starfleet was left with fewer ships for defense duties in the Federation core systems, weakening their position with neighboring races, including the Cardassian Union. Although most of the major battles of the Dominion War several years later were fought on a much greater scale, none had such a victims to survivor ratio, Wolf 359 itself will be remembered as the incident that broke decades of nearly total peace for the Federation and heralded a fierce decade of conflict to come.

Second Attack on Earth

The Borg collective made yet another attempt at Earth shortly before Stardate 50893 again sending a single cube. The Federation lost a number of ships in the Battle of Sector 001.

The second major Borg incursion into Federation space began, when a colony on Ivor Prime was destroyed. Deep Space 5 detected the attack, and long-range sensors detected a single Borg vessel. Vice Admiral Hayes was immediately informed. Hayes then

Partial list of starships lost in the Battle of Wolf 359

Ship Name	Registry	Class
USS <i>Ahwahnee</i>	NCC-71620	<i>Cheyenne</i> class
USS <i>Bellerophon</i>	NCC-62048	<i>Nebula</i> class
USS <i>Bonestell</i>	NCC-31600	<i>Oberth</i> class
USS <i>Buran</i>	NCC-57580	<i>Challenger</i> class
USS <i>Chekov</i>	NCC-53702	<i>Springfield</i> class
USS <i>Firebrand</i>	NCC-68723	<i>Freedom</i> class
USS <i>Gage</i>	NCC-11672	<i>Apollo</i> class
USS <i>Kyushu</i>	NCC-65491	<i>New Orleans</i> class
USS <i>Liberator</i>	NCC-67016	<i>Unknown</i>
USS <i>Melbourne</i>	NCC-62043	<i>Excelsior</i> class
USS <i>Princeton</i>	NCC-59804	<i>Niagara</i> class
USS <i>Roosevelt</i>	NCC-2573	<i>Excelsior</i> class
USS <i>Saratoga</i>	NCC-31911	<i>Miranda</i> class
USS <i>Tolstoy</i>	NCC-62095	<i>Rigel</i> class
USS <i>Yamaguchi</i>	NCC-26510	<i>Ambassador</i> class

contacted Captain Jean-Luc Picard aboard the USS *Enterprise-E*, and ordered the Enterprise to patrol Romulan Neutral Zone, due to Vice Admiral Hayes not wanting to add an "unstable element to a critical situation". Despite protest, the Enterprise followed

The following is a partial list of starships, which fought in the Battle of Sector 001

Ship Name	Registry	Class
USS <i>Appalachia</i>	NCC-52136	<i>Steamrunner-class</i>
USS <i>Bozeman</i>	NCC-1941	<i>Soyuz-class</i>
USS <i>Budapest</i>	NCC-64923	<i>Norway-class</i>
USS <i>Defiant</i>	NX-74205	<i>Defiant-class</i>
USS <i>Endeavour*</i>	NCC-71805	<i>Nebula-class</i>
USS <i>Enterprise-E</i>	NCC-1701-E	<i>Sovereign-class</i>
USS <i>Excalibur</i>	NCC-26517	<i>Ambassador-class</i>
USS <i>Lexington</i>	NCC-61832	<i>Nebula-class</i>
USS <i>Madison</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
USS <i>Thunderchild</i>	NCC-63549	<i>Akira-class</i>
USS <i>Yeager</i>	NCC-61947	<i>Saber-class</i>

Unknown vessels

At least:

- 2 Miranda-class starships
- 2 additional Saber-class starships
- 2 additional Akira-class starships
- 2 additional Steamrunner-class starships
- 2 additional Norway-class starships
- 1 Oberth-class starship

* This is the same USS Endeavour that survived the Battle of Wolf 359

the fleet had already been lost, including Hayes' flagship, although Hayes survived the battle. However, the fleet had succeeded in dealing heavy damage to the cube's outer hull, causing fluctuations in their power grid. The USS *Defiant*, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Worf, had been heavily damaged and was preparing to ram the cube when the *Enterprise-E* arrived, distracting the Borg long enough to transport the USS *Defiant* crew off their stricken ship as its life support failed. The *Defiant* was adrift, but salvageable.

Picard, taking advantage of his residual link to the Collective, took command of the fleet and ordered all weapons to be targeted on a seemingly non-critical point on the cube. The resulting barrage destroyed the cube, though the explosion also claimed several nearby starships.

orders, whilst a Federation fleet mobilized in the Typhon sector to intercept the Borg cube before it reached Earth.

The cube engaged the fleet soon after. The conflict was broadcast on Starfleet frequency 1486, and was monitored by the *Enterprise*. The fleet opened fire, but to minimal effect. The defense perimeter was quickly shattered, with numerous ships being lost, as the cube continued on unrelentingly towards Earth. The surviving ships, including the USS *Defiant* and the USS *Bozeman*, assaulted the cube all the way to the Sol system. Realizing that the battle was not progressing well, Picard, through a direct violation of their orders, ordered the *Enterprise-E* back to Earth.

By the time the fleet arrived in Earth's orbit, a large portion of

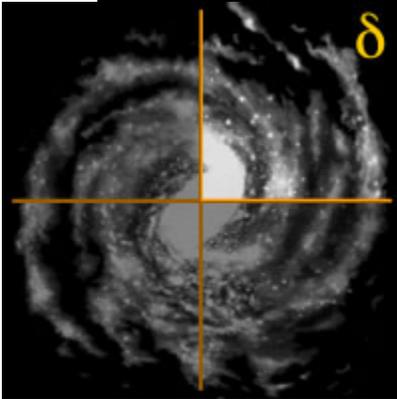


However, shortly before its destruction the cube launched a small spherical vessel from its interior -- a type of Borg vessel that had not been seen at that time. The sphere headed straight for Earth, with the *Enterprise* in hot pursuit.

The sphere began generating chronometric particles, forming a temporal vortex. The sphere disappeared inside the vortex near the boundary of Earth's atmosphere, traveling back to April of 2063 and disrupting First Contact. As the *Enterprise* was caught in the vortex's temporal wake, its crew saw an assimilated Earth with a population of nine billion, all Borg. The *Enterprise* followed the sphere into the past, and was able to restore the normal version of history before safely returning to the 24th century.

History of the Collective

In the Delta Quadrant:



Voyager and Seven of Nine:

Seven of Nine, Tertiary Adjunct of Unimatrix 01, more commonly referred to as Seven, is a former Borg drone, born Annika Hansen on Stardate 25479 (June 24th, 2348). She was assimilated into the Borg Collective in 2356 at age eight, but was liberated by the crew of the USS Voyager in 2374. She joined their crew and returned to the Alpha Quadrant with the starship in 2378.

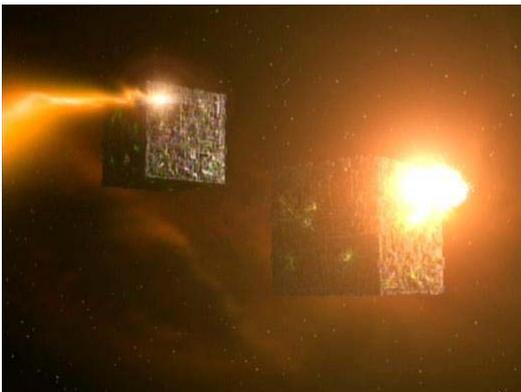
During the brief war between the Borg and Species 8472 in late 2373, the USS Voyager became trapped between the two warring factions. Seeking an alliance to protect her crew, Captain Kathryn Janeway offered the Borg the technology behind modified nanoprobes, which could be used in torpedo warheads as a weapon against their common enemy. The Collective assigned Seven to work with Janeway and Tuvok when they refused temporary assimilation. When an 8472 Bioship rammed into Seven of Nine's Cube, she, Janeway, Tuvok, a collection of drones, and Borg technology were beamed over to Voyager to continue the work. Captain Janeway was severely injured, leaving Chakotay in command. Seven attempted to renege on their agreement, forcing Chakotay to decompress the cargo bay they had assimilated. Seven was the only drone to survive. With Captain Janeway back in command, Seven of Nine later used Borg technology to modify Voyager to use the weaponry, opened a quantum singularity into fluidic space, and use the new nanoprobes to demonstrate to Species 8472 that they were now vulnerable. Species 8472 retreated, but Seven of Nine attempted to contact the Borg Collective and have Voyager assimilated. Chakotay, using experience gained from the Borg Cooperative several months prior, was able to break Seven's link to the Collective. Captain Janeway decided to keep Seven of Nine aboard, and the Doctor began to remove her rapidly deactivating implants.

The New Hive Mind:

At some point in 2368, a Borg cube traveling through the Nekrit Expanse was disabled, apparently by an electrokinetic storm. This resulted in the death of the majority of the Borg on board and separated the survivors from the Collective. Because the equipment on the cube was no longer functioning, their collective consciousness collapsed and they regained their former senses of identity and individuality.

Many races were represented on the new planet including a number from the Alpha Quadrant, who was assimilated during the Borg incursion in 2366. They included dozens of different races including Humans, Romulans, Cardassians, Klingons, Farn, and Parein. The 80,000 former Borg transported to the surface of a nearby Class M planet, and, free and grateful for the opportunity to re-experience their own thoughts and memories began re-building their lives as individuals. Unfortunately as their personalities returned, so did their original hatreds and differences. Within a short time, the planet became a war zone.

One group of survivors set up a cooperative in an attempt to find a peaceful solution to the conflicts. They were unable to achieve this and were running out of supplies when they encountered Commander Chakotay of the USS *Voyager*. He helped them repair their communications while they healed him of a serious head wound by bringing him into a temporary mini-collective. On returning to *Voyager*, he explained their plan to use the abandoned Borg Cube to bring all the planet's inhabitants into a new collective mind and so stop the war. Although applauding the ideals behind the idea, Captain Janeway would not allow the plan to go ahead. Using their communications array the cooperative took over Chakotay's mind using a lingering effect of the mini-collective. They forced him to re-start the Borg Cube and so formed the New Cooperative. Unexpectedly, the Cube and its Borg inhabitants also re-activated, however the Cooperative activated the Cube's self-destruct mechanism and destroyed it. The new hive mind seemed benevolent and did not appear to be governed by typical Borg philosophy. It was clearly not connected to the rest of the Borg Collective but there was no telling how much of a danger it could present in future.

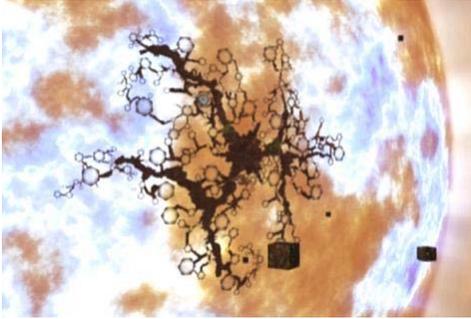


The Borg-Species 8472 War:

The Borg-Species 8472 War was a brief but highly destructive six-month conflict from late 2373 to early 2374. As the USS *Voyager* was about to enter Borg space in the Delta Quadrant, they discovered a region of space with little or no Borg activity, which they dub the "Northwest Passage", due to its similarity to the Northwest Passage on Earth, a corridor through Canada linking the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans on Earth by passage near the

Arctic circle. The passage, however, would ultimately be discovered by the *Voyager* crew to be swarming with an alien presence even more dangerous than the Borg: Species 8472. The forces of Species 8472 proved to be highly superior to that of the Borg, and their invasion of the Milky Way Galaxy was repelled only after Captain Kathryn Janeway of the USS *Voyager* provided the Borg with an efficient weapon against them.

Species 8472 originated from fluidic space, and had been attacked by the Borg in their realm some months previously. Species 8472 fought back, however, and the Borg soon found themselves on the losing end of a war with a species whose tactical abilities far outweighed their own. The Borg-Species 8472 War was the first significant defeat that the Borg had suffered in centuries.



Major Defeat:

A catastrophic defeat came at the hands of the USS *Voyager* in 2378. *Voyager* discovered a nebula that had readings suggesting dozens of wormholes. However, upon entering, they saw a Borg cube and were forced to desert their attempt to return to Earth.

Shortly after abandoning the wormhole, an alternate timeline Admiral Kathryn Janeway arrived and told (present-day) Captain Janeway to return to the nebula. Armed with new, advanced anti-Borg weapons, *Voyager* easily destroyed two cubes. When they reached the coordinates, they discovered a Borg transwarp hub. Realizing that this was a major tactical advantage to the Borg, Capt. Janeway ordered her crew to figure out a way to destroy it.

Adm. Janeway entered her shuttle inside the hub's Unicomplex and allowed the Borg Queen to assimilate her. The hive mind was then disrupted by a neurolytic pathogen in Adm. Janeway's brain. With the collective in disarray, *Voyager* entered the transwarp network, launched its torpedoes at the network's support beams, causing a chain reaction that destroyed the network. However, as the network collapsed, a Sphere pursued *Voyager* inside the transwarp conduit. *Voyager* maneuvered within the sphere as it emerged less than a lightyear from Earth. Admiral Owen Paris ordered all available ships to intercept. As the Starfleet armada opened fire, *Voyager* destroyed Sphere 634 from inside. The fleet then escorted *Voyager* to Earth.

Origins & Physiology of the Borg Collective:

The precise origins of the Collective are unknown. However, it seems likely that their homeworld, the Unicomplex, is located somewhere in the Delta Quadrant.

Starfleet assets have encountered references to their existence at least 900 years ago and possibly earlier. According to some, the Borg were "far less impressive 900 years ago." It is unlikely that there was ever a single moment when the Borg suddenly emerged. Guinan, an El-Aurian refugee from the El-Aurian system, claimed that their fusion of the organic with the cybernetic had been gradually evolving over thousands of centuries.

The Borg is more like an insect hive than a culture. As with any group of insects, you have the Queen. With the exception of the Queen, Borg drones make up the entire population of the Borg Collective. Once an individual is assimilated, they will be augmented with Borg technology. Then they are capable of assimilating other individuals into the Collective. After assimilation, they possess no sense of individuality and serve only the collective.

The Borg assimilate beings from every species they consider worthy (with the exception of some species on whom assimilation attempts fail, such as Species 8472, and species that they feel are not worthy an example is Species 329, the Kazon). For this reason, the physiology of Borg drones varies. Their organic bodies are enhanced, and some parts completely replaced, with cybernetic implants. The nature of these implants is determined by the drone's intended function, for instance a tactical or medical repair drone. Every drone is equipped with a homing device, and has a unique encoding sequence. All drones are linked to the Borg Collective through subspace transceivers and so form a Hive mind. The organic components of a drone are fed by their implants, which synthesize organic molecules. The implants in turn have to; periodically regenerate in specially fitted alcoves.

The Borg use a system of species designations to identify various races and cultures they have encountered.		
Species	116	
Species	125	Origin of the Borg Queen
Species	149	
Species	180	Ferengi
Species	218	Talaxians
Species	259	
Species	262	
Species	263	
Species	312	
Species	329	Kazon
Species	521	Shivolians
Species	571	
Species	689	Norcadians
Species	2461	Brunali
Species	3259	Vulcans
Species	4228	Hazari
Species	5174	
Species	5618	Humans
Species	5973	
Species	6291	Yridians
Species	6339	
Species	6961	Ktarians
Species	8472	
Species	10026	

The Borg Fleet

Class Name	Type	First Appearance	Length
Borg cube	<i>unknown</i>	2356	3,036 m
Borg diamond	Flagship	2375	~800 m
Borg probe	Scout	2375	~350 m
Rogue Borg ship	<i>unknown</i>	2369	<i>unknown</i>
Borg scoutship	Scout	2368	<i>unknown</i>
Borg sphere	Scout/escape pod	2373	~600 m
Borg tactical cube	Tactical cruiser	2376	3,036 m

The Cube



Type	Cube
Length	3,036 m
Beam	3,036 m
Draft	3,036 m
Mass	Unknown
Crew	200,000 drones
Maximum Speed	Unknown - capable of transwarp speed
Armament	Observed using cutting beams tractor beams plasma beams phaser weaponry torpedoes
Defenses	High-power subspace field auto-regenerative hull

The Borg Cube is the primary vessel of the Borg Collective. Measuring 28 cubic kilometers in volume and carrying up to 200,000 Borg drones, the Borg cube is one of the most destructive vessels in the galaxy.

Borg Diamond



The Borg diamond is a unique vessel in the Borg Collective and was sometimes used by the Borg Queen to travel. Little is known about its capabilities or specific purpose. The ship is heavily armed and well protected and like all Borg ships, capable of transwarp speeds. The ship is approximately 800 meters long.

A Borg Diamond vessel was present when Species 10026 was assimilated. It was assumed that Seven of Nine and the Borg Queen were aboard while this assimilation took place. Later, a Diamond pursued the Delta Flyer when it escaped from the Unimatrix after rescuing Seven. The Diamond was destroyed when the USS Voyager collapsed the transwarp conduit it was traveling in.

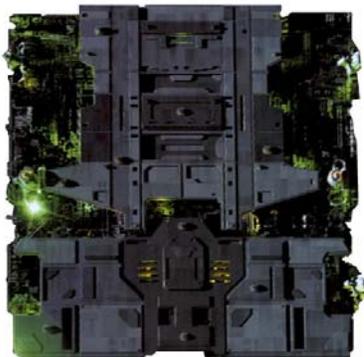
Borg Sphere



The Borg sphere is a huge sphere-shaped starship used by the Borg Collective, sometimes designated as a long-range tactical vessel

Type:	Sphere
Diameter:	457.2 meters
Crew:	11,000
Maximum Speed:	Unknown - capable of transwarp flight
Armament:	Observed to use tractor beams plasma beams phaser weaponry
Defenses:	High-power subspace field auto-regenerative hull ablativ hull armor

Borg Tactical Cube



Type:	Class IV Tactical Vessel
Length:	3,036 m
Beam:	3,036 m
Draft:	3,036 m
Mass:	Unknown - presumed to be greater than that of a standard Cube
Crew:	Unknown
Maximum Speed:	Unknown - capable of transwarp velocities
Armament:	Torpedoes, energy beams
Defenses:	Deflector shields, hull armor, regenerative capabilities

The Borg tactical cube is an extremely powerful combat vessel used by the Borg Collective. The tactical cube differs from the standard Borg cube in several ways, the most notable being the extensive hull armor that covers a large portion of the exterior hull of the ship. The interior is also slightly altered from what is known of Borg 'architecture'. The vessel's central plexus is protected by multi-regenerative security fields.