

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF TREKKERS
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THE VULCANS

BY

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Introduction:

Since the infamous first contact of the humans and the Vulcans, the Vulcans have been the logical, yet sometimes interfering “Big Brother” to Earth. The Vulcans are one of five civilizations responsible in a large part for the founding of the United Federation of Planets. Known for their logical minds and stoical natures, the Vulcans are great mediators. The Vulcan homeworld is the planet Vulcan. Throughout this course not only will you learn about the Vulcan thirst for knowledge but the origins of the race as a barbaric race and their evolution to the logical peace loving Vulcans that the Federation has grown to respect.

Physiology:

Vulcanoids is a name given to humanoid species that are similar to Vulcans. Vulcanoid species included the Romulans, Rigelians, Mintakans, Remans, Vulcans, and Debrune.

Anatomically

Anatomically, Vulcans and most other significant life forms of the Federation are outwardly indistinguishable from Humans, right down to such physiognomic minutiae as the same racial phenotypes, hair patterns, fingernails and cartilaginous foldings of the nose. The chief exceptions to this being the Vulcans' notably arched and upswept eyebrows and distinguished external ear structure, the top of which tapers into a clearly defined point.

In contrast to their external similarities, Vulcan internal anatomy differs radically from that of humans. For instance, their heart is where a Human's liver would normally be, and beats several hundred times per minute. Vulcan blood is copper-based and is copper or rust colored when deoxygenated in the veins and green when oxygenated in the arteries. Bruises and dermal abrasions therefore take on a green color



The Vulcan Spinal Cord
Spinal cord - plat-wel-elakh

Epidermal Differences

Most Vulcans have pale skin with a very subtle greenish tinge, and straight, glossy dark brown or more commonly black hair. However, some Vulcans have brown skin, tightly coiled black hair, and physiognomic features similar to those found in Humans of African descent. Others share physiognomic features similar to those found in Humans of Asian descent. However, most Vulcans have a vaguely Eurasian appearance.

Vulcans have body hair similar to Humans, and some males can be very hirsute. Vulcan males are also capable of growing facial hair, but rarely do so.

Vulcan Sensory Functionality

The Vulcan digestive tract is highly adaptable. Although alien foods, notably Human food, will occasionally disagree with a Vulcan, given time, their body will eventually adapt to the alien food.

Vulcan hearing is very sensitive. Having evolved on a planet, which is mostly desert, Vulcans have developed ways of surviving in desert conditions. For example, they can survive for several days without water and have inner eyelids, which protect their eyes.

Vulcan females possess a heightened sense of smell. Vulcans also have superior metabolism to humans. Caffeine and sapotoxins have little effect on Vulcans. They are also capable of surviving for long durations without food or sleep. Under stress, Vulcans can do without sleep for weeks. Vulcans are on average three times physically stronger than humans are and are noticeably more agile.

One weakness of the Vulcans is their inability to metabolize nitrous oxide (N₂O) is a colorless gas that often makes Humans insensible to pain and causes spontaneous laughter; due to this effect, it is often dubbed laughing gas. Although after only a few minutes of exposure to the gas, a Vulcan will pass out.



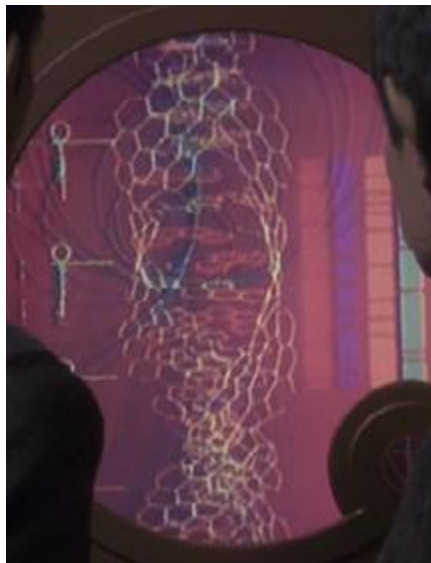
Diseases

Tuvan Syndrome is a neurological disease affecting such Vulcanoid species such as Romulans, Vulcans and Rigelians, which typically is degenerative and incurable.

In the normal profile for degeneration, the patient will begin experiencing a loss of motor skills in ten to fifteen years, with life expectancy somewhere in the twenty to twenty-five year range upon contracting it.

Bendii Syndrome is a degenerative illness affecting a minority of elderly Vulcans. Initially it is characterized by a gradual but accelerating loss of emotional control, with victims exhibiting sudden bursts of emotion. Diagnosis is made by culturing tissue samples taken from the patient's metathalamus.

A dangerous side effect of Bendii Syndrome is that the loss of emotional control can be telepathically projected to others. Vulcans are able to resist the emotional projections, but if the afflicted person is in the presence of non-Vulcans, the emotions can cause outbreaks of violence



Scan of a Vulcan's DNA that is suffering from Pa'nar Syndrome

Pa'nar Syndrome is a Vulcan disease that results in the degradation of the synaptic pathways.

It also affects the endocrine and immune systems. It is caused by a disruption of neuro-electric impulses during Vulcan mind melds performed by a Vulcan who has been improperly trained. It can be cured by a meld performed by an experienced melder.

The disease and its cure were known in Surak's time, but by the 22nd century, the knowledge of the cure had been lost. In that time, melding was considered an "unnatural" practice. As a result, those afflicted with Pa'nar Syndrome were ostracized from Vulcan society.

Vulcan Bio-signs		
Average Height	Male = 2.0 meters (6'6")	Female = 1.7 meters (5'6")
Average Weight	Male = 70 kg (154.3 lbs); Female = 50 kg (110.2 lbs)	
Temperature	32.78C (91F)	
Average Pulse	242 beats/minute	
Average Blood Pressure	80/40	
Average Life Expectancy	250 Standard years	

Vulcan History

Ancient History/Traditions

There are certain gaps in Vulcan prehistory that until the 2260s went unexplained. Upon meeting Sargon of Arret, Lt. Commander Spock of the Federation starship *Enterprise 1701* theorized that Sargon's people may have colonized Vulcan at some point in their history, as they did many other worlds, perhaps filling some of those gaps

Some rituals like pon farr have remained unchanged from the time of the beginning. As far back as Vulcan memory goes, they have never been conquered. Memory goes back so far that Vulcans cannot conceive of a conqueror.

Pon farr

Pon farr is a part of the Vulcan reproductive cycle occurring approximately, once every seven years during their adult life, during which a Vulcan must undergo the plak tow, or "blood fever" during which they lose all control of their emotions and are compelled to take a mate, or die.

Pon farr affects both sexes, though the onset of pon farr in the female can sometimes be triggered by a telepathic link with a male. During pon farr, a Vulcan's biological functions increase from the norm and rise dangerously high in plak tow. If the Vulcan does not mate, the neurochemical imbalance may be fatal. During pon farr, a Vulcan is stripped of his or her logic and is flooded with uncontrollable emotions, often of an intensely sexual nature; he or she may become violent and unaware of his or her surroundings.



Ceremonial Vulcan wedding grounds

Typically, a Vulcan will undergo this every seven years of their adult life during fertility. During this time, one would generate the urge to return to their homeworld to find a mate. However, the return to Vulcan for mating is not absolutely necessary and there are other means of treating the pon farr, besides taking a mate.

Kal-if-fee

Some of the most common ways of treating Pon Farr is through means of extreme meditation. Another way to treat it is through the through the Kal-if-fee - a "passion fight" to the death, in which two Vulcan males fight for the right to mate with a certain female. During the 23rd century, the fights were over when one was killed. The conflict is generally initiated when either two adult males wish to mate with one female during the Pon farr, or when the female does not want the male that was arranged for her at childhood. The female can choose any defender she wants, including herself or an alien



Koon-ut-kal-if-fee

The Koon-ut-kal-if-fee is the Vulcan mating ritual, which literally means "marriage or challenge" and is fundamentally a wedding ceremony. During the Vulcan mating ritual, a female can claim Kal-if-fee if she does not want the male arranged for her at childhood. At which point, the male arranged for her must fight the female's selected mate.

The pon farr can be claimed as the Tarkalean flu to disguise the true nature of the problem, due to Vulcans believing that pon farr is a personal matter that should not be discussed with anyone other than their mate.

Kahs-wan

The kahs-wan or Vulcan maturity test, is a traditional survival test for pre-teen Vulcans. The basis for the kahs-wan is to survive 10 days without food, water, or weapons in Vulcan's Forge.

The origins of the kahs-wan originate from the ancient Vulcan warrior days. When the Vulcans turned to logic, they reasoned that they must maintain the tests of courage and strength to keep pure logic from making them weak and helpless. For a Vulcan, to fail the kahs-wan once is not considered a disgrace.

Fal-tor-pan

Fal-tor-pan was a Vulcan ritual designed to reunite a Vulcan's katra with his or her body. The Fal-tor-pan, literally means "the refusal". This ritual is performed very rarely. The last time the ritual was performed was in 2286, between current Federation Ambassador Spock and Starfleet Admiral Leonard H. McCoy, MD. After he was recovered from the Genesis Planet and returned to Mount Seleya, by Starfleet Admiral James T. Kirk.



Mount Seleya (2285)

Upon its return to Mount Seleya, Spock's katra was transferred from Doctor McCoy into his own body. The ritual was performed by high priestess T'Lar.

The ritual was considered very dangerous, both to the recovering deceased person, and to the keeper of the katra. For this reason, it was almost never performed, and at the time of Spock's Fal-tor-pan, it was unclear whether the ritual had ever been performed at all.

Kal Rekk

Kal Rekk is a holiday observed on the planet Vulcan. Kal Rekk, to the Vulcans, is a day of atonement, solitude and silence.

Rumarie

Rumarie was an ancient pagan holiday on the planet Vulcan that was last observed during the 14th century CE. Some historians describe Rumarie as a festival "full of barely clothed Vulcan men and women, covered in slippery Rillian grease, chasing one another."

Tal-Shanar

The Tal-Shanar is a Vulcan spiritual practice that they rarely allow outsiders to see

Time of Awakening

The Time of Awakening was a period in Vulcan history when the violent and warlike Vulcan race switched to ways that are more peaceful. It occurred sometime during the 4th century of the Earth Julian/Gregorian calendar.

The change was brought on by a Vulcan named Surak, who preached a philosophy of using logic to control emotions, as well as total pacifism. He was effective in spreading his teaching across Vulcan, though he encountered heavy resistance from many Vulcans, especially "those who marched beneath the raptor's wings", even starting a nuclear war. Surak died of radiation sickness shortly before the last battle against these factions, but his writings were preserved in the Kir'Shara. In the end, a sizable group of Vulcans eventually left the planet, becoming the ancestors of the Romulans.

Time of the Vulcan High Command

First Contact

On the morning of April 5, 2063, The T'Plana-Hath was passing through the outskirts of the Sol system, when it detected Dr. Zefram Cochrane's warp signature during a test flight of the *Phoenix* from the vicinity of Earth, a planet that the Vulcan High Command had been monitoring for decades. As per Vulcan first contact protocols, they decided to land on Earth, to meet the person who flew the first warp ship of their world. They landed near a settlement in Montana.

The senior of its three-person crew exited the vehicle first, offered the Vulcan salute, "Live long, and prosper." Dr. Cochrane shook the Vulcan's hand, and said thanks. The Vulcans and Dr. Cochrane then went into the local establishment for beverages, and a presentation of the local music.

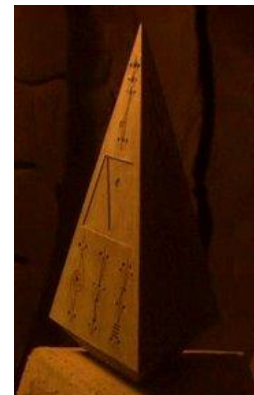


The T'Plana-Hath after it landed on Earth

An alliance would be formed between the Vulcans and the humans, that would last for over centuries was formed between the two worlds, though the Vulcans initially refused to share advanced warp technology with the Humans. Almost a century after first contact, Earth was able to launch its first warp 5 starship, the *Enterprise NX-01*.

Kir'Shara

In 2154, the writings of Surak were known only through fragmentary translations. The Syrrannites believed that the Kir'Shara would be found in or near the T'Karath Sanctuary, but although their leader Syrran possessed the katra of Surak, they were unable to find it. When Syrran died and transferred Surak's katra to Captain Jonathan Archer of the starship *Enterprise NX-01*, Archer learned of the Kir'Shara's location and discovered it shortly before the monastery was bombed by the Vulcan High Command.



The Kir'Shara.



The Kir'Shara itself was a small pyramid with a narrow base, slightly less than one meter in height. It had writing in ancient Vulcan on each of its three sides. It was found in a sealed chamber beneath the monastery, which Archer was able to open by touching certain letters.

The discovery of the Kir'Shara transformed Vulcan society, initiating a widespread return to the true teachings of Surak. It would may take years to translate all of the writing, but its revelation (and the circumstances surrounding it) was sufficient to topple the Vulcan High Command and the government of V'Las.

High Command Rule and the Vulcan Reformation

By the mid-22nd century, Vulcan was a regional power in the Alpha Quadrant. The Vulcan High Command engaged in conflicts with the neighboring Andorians, and used its influence to slow Earth's technological development.



The monastery of P'Jem (2151).

P'Jem

P'Jem was an ancient Vulcan monastery established in the 9th century on a planet not far from Andoria. In the 22nd century, the monastery was regularly ransacked by the Andorians, who accurately suspected it contained a surveillance post.

At some point prior to 2151, the Vulcans built a monitoring station beneath the ancient monastery at P'Jem, for spying on the Andorians. In 2151, the listening station was discovered by Captain Jonathan Archer and the Commander Thy'lek Shran of the Andorian Imperial Guard. Shortly thereafter, the monastery was destroyed by Andorian orbital bombardment. This caused turmoil and upheaval on Vulcan, including the dismissal of the First Minister.

Subsequent to this crisis, the High Command gained more control over civilian affairs. Under the leadership of Administrator V'Las, the High Command persecuted the Syrrannite sect, which claimed that Vulcan no longer followed the true teachings of Surak. In 2154, V'Las claimed to have proof that the Andorians were developing a super-weapon based on Xindi technology, and planned to invade Andoria in order to preempt this threat.

As these plans were developing, agents loyal to V'Las bombed Earth's embassy and framed the Syrrannite T'Pau for the act. Captain Jonathan Archer, investigating the Syrrannites, was briefly joined with the *katra* of Surak, and re-discovered the *Kir'Shara*, an artifact containing the original writings of Surak.

Ambassador Soval and Commander Charles Tucker III warned the Andorians of the planned invasion, and the Vulcan attack fleet lost the element of surprise. As the battle got underway, Archer and T'Pau brought the Kir'Shara into the High Command's headquarters, justifying the Syrrannites' position and enabling Minister Kuvak to challenge V'Las's increasingly illogical behavior.

In short, order, the attack on Andoria was cancelled, V'Las deposed, and the High Command disbanded. Minister Kuvak and T'Pol formed a new transitional government, which promised to pursue peaceful policies, and to end its restrictions on Earth's technological development and expansion. A role they had played since first contact, allowing humans to explore space on their own. Additionally, T'Pol was elevated from the status of a hated rebel to a position of importance in Vulcan politics. T'Pol is still who had ever turned down a seat on the Federation Council.

One of the first acts of the new government was to end the policy of holding back human expansion into the galaxy.

Time in the United Federation of Planets

Today, Vulcan remains one of the principal Federation members, and is deeply involved in all levels of that society. Their tradition of exploration has continued; in the 24th Century, a Vulcan ship was the first to make formal contact with a Gamma Quadrant civilization, upon encountering the Wadi. They were at the forefront of exploration in the Gamma Quadrant, encountering the Rakhari and finding the remains of the Hur'q civilization.

Despite the enmity between the Federation and the Romulan Star Empire, some Vulcans have been attempting to forge a more cordial relationship with their cousins, ultimately hoping to reunify the two cultures. So far, these efforts have met with little success. In the wake of the Reman uprising, as well as the improved relations between the Romulans and the Federation after the Dominion war, it is unclear what the status of this movement is.

Culture and Tradition

Philosophy

Vulcan philosophy revolves around the concept of logic. A Vulcan's life objective is to suppress and control all emotion to render a purely logical being. This difficult task is attained through meditation and discipline.



Surak, founder of modern Vulcan philosophy

As Vulcans reach maturity, it is customary to train under the tutelage of a Vulcan master in the Kolinahr ritual, to purge themselves of remaining emotions. The father of Vulcan philosophy is Surak, who helped lead the Vulcan people out of a time of destruction and violence into their new era of peace. His introduction of logic and emotional discipline ushered in the Time of Awakening.

These ideals were forgotten by many Vulcans around the 22nd century, leading to a corrupt governmental system. Unknown at the time, their government had been infiltrated at the highest levels by Romulan operatives, misleading the population with a distorted version of Surak's teachings. A small faction called Syrrannites, founding their philosophy on what was believed to be his true works discovered Surak's original texts, restoring the society he had built. Other works related to this philosophy are



Kiri-kin-tha's First Law of Metaphysics ("*Nothing unreal exists*") and T'Plana-Hath's statement that "*Logic is the cement of our civilization with which we ascend from chaos using reason as our guide.*"



Vulcans embrace cultural and racial diversity, as evidenced through the IDIC. Vulcans also embrace a pacifist philosophy, going so far as to follow strict vegetarian diets to avoid killing even non-sentient animals. Vulcans believe that the needs of a very large group should go before the needs of a very small group or any individual.

"The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few or the one" is a fundamental element of Vulcan philosophy. It is also a quote from John Stuart Mill.

Vulcan Philosophy was a topic of study at Starfleet Academy by the 24th century.

The Vulcan Salute

The Vulcan salute is a hand gesture used by Vulcans as a greeting. It involves holding the palm of one's right hand outwards while placing the fingers in a "V" shaped by separating the middle and ring fingers, while keeping the others together.

This salute is often, but not always, accompanied with the salutation "Live long and prosper" or "Live long (name), and prosper." The lesser-known salutation, which on occasion precedes that usage, is "Peace and long life".

In Vulcan, the greeting is pronounced "*Dup dor a'az Mubster*"

Written language

The Vulcan written language has several different forms, some of which combine with each other.

The primary version resembles terrestrial musical notes and is written in vertical columns running top-to-bottom, left-to-the right. The primary Vulcan script consists of a central staff, along which, spirals, long and short dashes and dots are written. A more stylized version of this script appears on the Promenade of Deep Space 9.



Six variations on the Vulcan script

A second writing system seems to consist of simple squiggles, spirals and dots and can be used separately or in tandem with the primary script. A sequence of several symbols from this script appears on many forms of Vulcan clothing. This script is also written vertically.

A third cuneiform like script appears on Vulcan starship hulls and in some Vulcan homes and temples. This script appears to run left-to-right like English.

Examples of Spoken Language

Koon-ut-kal-if-fee	<i>Marriage or challenge</i>
Kroykah	<i>Stop! Or Enough!</i>
Dakh orfikkel aushfamaluhr shaukaush fi'aifa mazhiv	<i>Our ancestors cast out their animal passions on these very sands</i>
Sha'koshtri korseivel bai'elkhrul-akteibuhl t'Kolinahr	<i>Saving our race through the attainment of Kolinahr.</i>
Nahp - hif-bi tu throks	<i>Your thoughts...give them to me</i>
Kashkau - Spohkh - wuhkuh eh teretuhr	<i>Out minds are joined, Spock...together, and as one</i>
T'Ish hokni'es kwi'shoret	<i>I sense the consciousness calling to you from space...</i>
Estuhl terrupik khaf - Spohkh	<i>Your human blood is touched by it, Spock</i>
vrayshal srashiv t'Kolinahr	<i>You have not yet attained Kolinahr</i>
T'I kilko-srashiv kitok-wilat	<i>He must search elsewhere for his answer</i>
I'tah tehrai k'etwel	<i>He shall not find it here.</i>
Dif-tor heh smusma, Spohkh	<i>Live long and prosper, Spock.</i>
Gishen worla ihk-banut	<i>He's never what I expect.</i>
Wakli ak'wikman - ot-lan?	<i>What surprises you, lieutenant?</i>
Ish-veh ni... komihn.	<i>He's so... human</i>
Kling akhlami buhfik - Saavik-kam	<i>Nobody's perfect, Saavik</i>
Saavik wimish. Kup-stariben?	<i>I am Saavik. Can you speak?</i>
Dom - ki'sarlah	<i>So, it has come</i>



Dungi tu sahrafel?	<i>Will you trust me?</i>
Ponfo miran	<i>Go to hell</i>
Ghishun tanfi bosh dwener?	<i>Why is he here?</i>
Pod Tucker avalde keru.... Vulkanfi tozhi dawru.	<i>Commander Tucker is my colleague... he wanted to visit Vulcan</i>
Falu nenvikh valdewizh sukfi lorun.	<i>This is the first time you've brought a colleague home with you.</i>
The Vulcan dialogue used in <i>Star Trek</i> was translated by linguist Marc Okrand.	

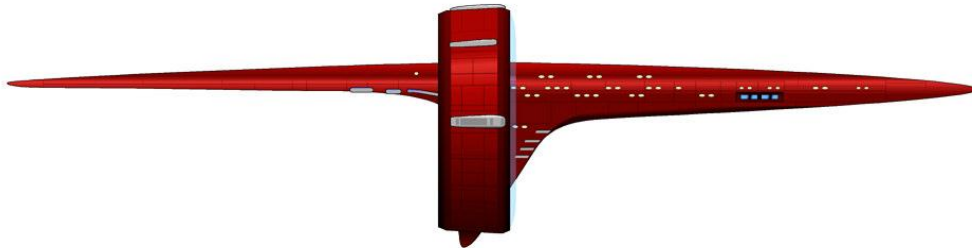
Vulcan Space Craft

T'Plana-Hath



The *T'Plana-Hath* type was a type of warp-capable Vulcan starship that was in service during the mid-21st century. One vessel of this class was used during the Earth/Vulcan First Contact in April 2063.

Surak class



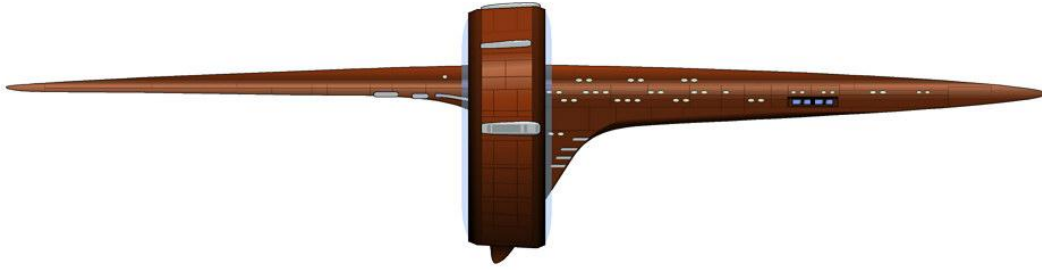
Type	Science vessel
Maximum Speed	Warp 6.5 (22nd century scale)
Armament	Particle beam weapons photonic weapons tractor beam
Defenses	Deflector shields

The *Surak* class was a type of Vulcan science vessel employed by the High Command during the mid-22nd century. Comparable in design and capabilities with the *Sh'Raan* type, the *Surak*-class was among the most powerful starships in the Vulcan fleet during the 2150s.

This class of vessel had a long, cylindrical primary hull and a unique circular, ring shaped warp drive. It had a capability of achieving Warp 6.5, however the technology behind this advancement was considered "classified" as of 2151, from Earth Starfleet.

The *Surak*-class also possessed tractor beam technology, however, this too was considered "classified" from Earth Starfleet. The tractor beam emitter was located on the lower section of the primary hull, in front of the warp drive.

Sh'Raan Class



The *Sh'Raan* type a type of Vulcan starship operated by the High Command during the mid-22nd century. They were similar in design to the *Surak*-class science vessels of the era; they were however designated as combat cruisers.

Type	Combat Cruiser
Maximum Speed	Warp 7.0 (22nd century scale)
Armament	Particle beam weapons Photonic weapons tractor beam
Defenses	Deflector shields

During the 2150s, the *Sh'Raan* type was one of the Vulcan's fastest and most powerful starships in operation. Armed with particle beam weapons, these vessels were capable of disabling, if not destroying a force of three Mazarite warships in a confrontation. Their top speed was Warp 7.

D'Kyr Class



The ***D'Kyr-type*** was a type of Vulcan starship operated by the High Command during the mid-22nd century. Some of these vessels were given the designation of "combat cruiser" in the 2150s. As with most Vulcan ships, this type utilized a "ringed-engine," that was held in place by a ring in the ships hull. The engine-ring could rotate around 90°, but was usually kept in the full upright position. The inside of the ring would glow blue while the ships engines were online. Keeping the ring from rotating anymore was a small auxiliary craft that docked into the outer ring.

A number of these starships were present at the Battle of Andoria, carrying out the ill wishes of then-Administrator V'Las.

Starships of Vulcan Origin			
Name	Class/Type	Year(s) of service	Last known status
<i>D'Kyr</i>	<i>D'Kyr-type</i>	2152	Active
<i>D'Vahl</i>	Survey ship	1958	Active
<i>Ni'Var</i>	<i>Surak-class</i>	2151	Active
<i>Nyran</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	2152	Active
<i>Sh'Raan</i>	<i>Sh'Raan-type</i>	2151	Active
<i>Surak</i>	Warp courier	2272	Active
<i>Tal'Kir</i>	<i>D'Kyr-type</i>	2152	Active
<i>Ti'Mur</i>	<i>Surak-Class</i>	2136-2151	Active
<i>T'Pan</i>	Science vessel	2373	Active
<i>T'Plana-Hath</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	2063	Active
<i>T'Vran</i>	Science vessel	2369	Active
<i>Vahklas</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	2151	Active
<i>Yarahla</i>	<i>Maymora-class</i>	2140s	Active
<i>Seleya</i>	<i>D'Kyr-type</i>	2152-2153	Destroyed
<i>T'Pau</i>	Vulcan transport	2364-2368	Destroyed
<i>T'Plana</i>	<i>unknown</i>	mid-2000s	Destroyed
<i>Vaankara</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	2152	Destroyed



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