

Tau Orbital Assault Force

Tau Orbital Assault Force armies have a Strategy Rating of 3. Manta Dropships, Heavy Battlesuit and Crisis Suit formations have an initiative rating of 1+. All other formations have an initiative rating of 2+

Tau Required Formations (One space ship must be taken as part of a Tau Orbital Assault force)			
FORMATION	UNITS	UPGRADES	COST
Spacecraft	Custodian Battlecruiser		225

Tau Core Formations (any amount of core formations may be selected)			
FORMATION	UNITS	UPGRADES	COST
Manta Dropship	One Manta Dropship	Shas'O Command Deck	575
Orca DropShip	One Orca		150

Tau Support Formations (Up to two may be selected per core formation)			
FORMATION	UNITS	UPGRADES	COST
Crisis Battlesuit Cadre	One Shas'el Commander character and Four XV8 Crisis Battlesuit units	Crisis Suits, Gun Drones	250
Fire Warrior Cadre	Eight Tau Fire Warrior units	Bonded Teams, Broadsides, Ethereal, Fire Warriors, Gun Drones, Skyray, Devilfish	225
Recon Formation	Six Tetra or Piranha OR Three Remora Stealth Drones	Gun Drones, Piranhas	175
Pathfinders	Four Pathfinder units and two Devilfish	Gun Drones, Piranhas	
Armor Support Group	Four Hammerhead units (Ion or Fusion)	Skyray	200
Stealth Group	Six XV15 Stealth Battlesuit Units OR Four XV95 Ghostkeel Units		225
XV88 Broadside	Six XV88 Broadside Units	Gun Drones	300
Heavy Battlesuit Formation	One Shas'el and three heavy suits: XV104 Riptide, XV107 R'Varna, XV109 Y'Vahra		350
Skysweep Group	Three Skyray Air Defense Gunship units	Piranhas	250

Tau Upgrades (Up to three upgrades may be added to each formation. No upgrade may be taken by a formation more than once.)			
FORMATION	UNITS		COST
Bonded Teams	The formation counts as containing an additional Leader and removes an extra blast marker when rallying or regrouping. This is not tied to any one unit in the formation.		25
Shas'O Command Deck	Add one Shas'o Commander to one unit (Max One Per Army)		75
Ethereal	Add one Ethereal character to a Fire Warrior unit (Max One Per Army)		50
Fire Warriors	Add four Fire Warrior units		50
Piranhas	Add three Piranhas		75
Gun Drones	Add two Gun Drone units		25
Crisis Suits	Add one to four XV8 Crisis Battlesuit units		50 pts add one 75 pts add two
Devilfish	Add four Devilfish units		75
Skyray	Replace one hammerhead or two Fire warriors and Devilfish with one Skyray		50

Air Caste Formations (1/3rd of your army list may be Air Caste formations)

FORMATION	UNITS	UPGRADES	COST
Barracuda Squadron	Two Barracuda Fighters		150
Tiger Shark Squadron	Two Tiger Sharks May begin with transporting a formation of six Gun Drones		275
Tiger Shark AX-1-0 Squadron	Two Tiger Shark AX-1-0		350

TAU ORBITAL ASSAULT FORCE SPECIAL RULES

ASSAULT DEPLOYMENT

The orbital assault force is an army that attacks exclusively via spacecraft to gain a foot hold on a new planet or in a remote area.

Manta Dropship formations may deploy anywhere on the controlling players table half. Any formation during the deployment phase (in addition to deploying normally) may deploy anywhere in the controlling players table half within 10 cm (increased from 5cm for normal dis-embarkment) of a Manta Dropship as if the Manta Dropship had just completed a planetfall action. The Manta's transport restrictions apply for all units deployed this way within the 10cm of the Manta, unless they were deployed by alternate means (teleport, garrison)