

# The Challenger Tank (A.30)



The Challenger was the first British tank to mount the 17 pounder gun and was essentially a modified Cromwell with a larger turret. Due to the large turret size the vehicle was very top heavy but it retained most of the Cromwells high speed and agility. Only around 200 of the vehicles were ordered with 197 being completed by the time war ended in Europe. Additional 25mm armour plates were welded to the front of the vehicle to provide extra protection.

Name	Challenger
Type	Cruiser
Production Date	March 1944

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Written by Administrator

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Crew	5
(In turret)	3
Length	23'-6"
Width	9'-6.5"
Height	9'-1.25"
Weight	32.5
Ground pressure	13.25
Ground clearance	4'-4"
Track type	Webbed & Spudded
No per track	127
Weight of one Track	
Track width	15.5"
Engine	<a href="#">Meteor</a>
B.H.P/Ton	18.4
Max road speed	31.8
Average road speed	
Cross Country Speed	
Gear box type	Z5 Constant Mesh
Gears	5 Forward 1 Reverse
Fuel consumption (road) – MPG	
Fuel consumption (cross country)	
Petrol	
Auxiliary capacity	
Radius of action (road)	

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	120
Radius of action	(cross country)
Trench Crossing	8'-6"
Vertical obstacle	3'
Fording height	4'-6"
Gradient	30
Main Armament	<a href="#">17 Pounder</a>
Ammunition	48
Secondary Armament	Browning .300
Ammunition	3750
Transverse type	Electric
Max elevation	20
Max depression	10
Turret Ring Size	66.75"
Optics	<a href="#">No. 43 x3</a>
Armour	
Lower Hull Nose	57(I.T.90)
Upper Hull Nose	30(I.T.80)
Hull Front	64(I.T.80)
Hull Sides Upper	51(I.T.80)
Hull Sides Lower	14(I.T.100)+14(I.T.120)
Hull Rear Lower	38(I.T.80)
Hull Rear Upper	38(I.T.80)
Hull Roof (Front)	20(I.T.80)
Engine Deck	14(I.T.100)
Hull Floor Front	10(I.T.120)

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Turret Mantlet	102(I.T.90)
Turret Front	63(I.T.80)
Turret Roof	20(I.T.80)
Turret Sides	40(I.T.80)
Turret Rear	40(I.T.80)
Turret Floor	22(I.T.120)
Appliqué Armour	25(I.T.80)
	Turret Front
	Turret Box
	Hull Front
	Hull Nose

Production of Challenger Tanks by year (UK Only)

