

Rock Hound IV

Hull Size: 14

Length: 285m

Width (not including engine struts): 70m

Small Craft & Emergency Equipment: 14 life pods, 1 life boat, 1 launch, 1 digger shuttle, 3 work pods

Hatches: 3

Engines: 6 Type B Ion (ADF 1, MR 1)

Armament: LB x3, RB (3 salvos), Aft firing PL x2, Grapples

The Rock Hound IV is a mining ship outfitted with an ore processing lab and digger shuttle. It has a couple of unique features:

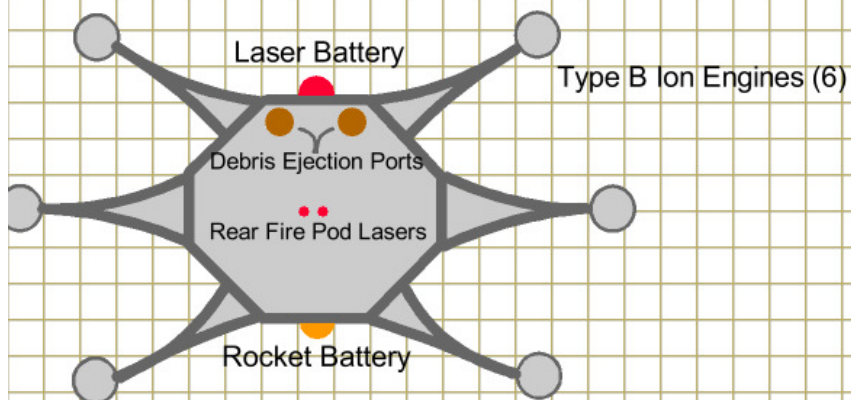
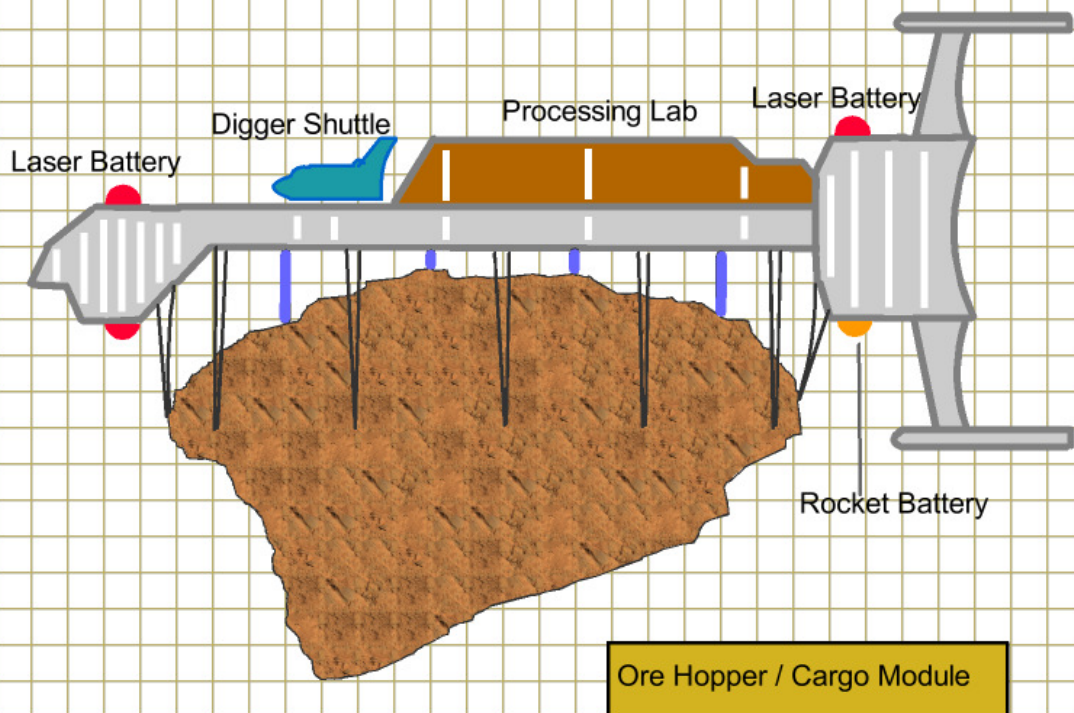
1. It sports grapples which are used to grab an asteroid and reel it in. Robotically controlled gantry like arms will grab the rock and ram buffers will extend from the ship to hold the rock in place away from the ship.
2. The debris from refining is fed out ejection ports that run through the aft section of hull and ejected directly out the back so as to not foul the engine struts or weapon batteries. It can be siphoned off at engineering as a substitute fuel for the ion engines.

Normal flight profile is with a number of ore hopper/ cargo modules locked in the gantry like arms. When a suitable asteroid is found they're remounted on the dorsal and sides of the ore processing lab where they will fill directly. For the return trip they will be returned to the embrace of the gantry arms.

Note: the digger shuttle is depicted as a HS 2 shuttle.

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Scale: Approx 10m /square



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