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Source: German Navy
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OVERVIEW

The Type 332 Frankenthal-class mine hunter is a class of German mine hunters. The ships are built of non-magnetic steel. Hull, machinery and superstructure of this class are similar to the Type 343 Hameln-class minesweeper, but the equipment differs.

The Datteln is equipped with minesweeping drones "PINGUIN B3", a 27 mm machine gun as well as two FIM-92 Stinger for self-defense against air threats. It is able to transport and deploy up to 20 sea mines. Even though the 332/343 were built for high maneuverability, they are able to speed up to 18kts.

The Datteln, named after a town in North Rhine-Westphalia, has been built by the German Luerksen-Werft and was commissioned on 8th December, 1994. Its crew consists of up to 44 women and men under the command of Lieutenant Commander Helena Linder-Jeß. It is part of the 3rd minesweeping squadron, based in Kiel at the Baltic Sea. It has been taking part in various maneuvers, exercises, minesweeping operations and missions, such as the Standing NATO Mine Counter Measures Group.



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