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He focusses on the principal pre-war developments such as the first purpose-built aircraft carriers and the growing perception of the threat of air attack to warships. All the wartime construction programmes are covered, such as the massive expansion in escort ships to counter the U-boat menace, and the development of the amphibious warfare fleet for the D-Day landings in Full analysis is also provided of the experience of wartime damage, as well as the once top secret pre- and post-war damage trials.

Illustrated throughout with a superb collection of contemporary photographs and numerous line drawings, this now classic work is required reading for naval historians and enthusiasts.

**Nelson to Vanguard: Warship Design and Development by D.K. Brown**

In the final volume of his bestselling series on British warship development, David K. Brown brings the knowledge and experience of a long career as a naval constructor to this account of the Royal Navy's response to the restrictions placed on it by the Washington Naval Treaties and the construction of the fleet in World War II. He focusses on such principal pre-war developments as the first purpose-built aircraft carriers and the growing perception of the threat of air attack to warships.

The book covers all the wartime construction programs, such as the massive expansion in escort ships to counter the U-boat menace and the development of the amphibious warfare fleet for the D-Day landings in Full analysis is also provided of the experience of wartime damage, as well as the once top-secret pre- and post-war damage trials. Some two hundred contemporary photographs are displayed throughout the text. He published widely on the subject of warship design and built a reputation as a clear and brilliant commentator on the development of the ships Nelson to Vanguard: Warship Design and Development 1923 - 1945 the Royal Navy.

He died in Nelson to Vanguard : Warship Development Nelson to Vanguard : Warship Development D.

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Good book It is very comprehensive and gives a lot of information on inter war and Second World War decisions and designs. Highly recommended. As the subtitle says, this is a history of British warship development from after the Washington Naval Treaty to the end of the Second World War.

It is based heavily on the internal notes and correspondence of the Constructor's office. Unlike most naval historians, the author was a senior British naval architect, who had served on some of the ships in question, and done design studies on alterations to others of them. As technical history, it is virtually un As the subtitle says, this is a history of British warship development from after the Washington Naval Treaty to the end of the Second World War.

As technical history, it is virtually unmatched. Warships are among Nelson to Vanguard: Warship Design and Development 1923 - 1945 most complex artifacts ever engineered; they are huge, complicated, and expected to keep working as much as possible even with enemies shooting at them.

This means that designers need to think both about the normal peacetime environment, the wartime environment, and the situation after battle damage. The author had actually faced those design constraints, and is uniquely able to explain the challenges and the insights brought to bear in solving them.

The book Nelson to Vanguard: Warship Design and Development 1923 - 1945 enormously eye-opening. The things that worried British naval architects weren't the things I thought would. The industry was far smaller in the mid- and late- s than it had been before World War One, and far less up-to-date technically.

This meant that it was hard for the Navy to push shipbuilders to adopt innovations like longitudinal framing. The crews of Atlantic convoy escorts would have been cold, sick, and under-nourished. The way the RN worked, food would be cooked in the galleys and then moved through the ship, above decks, to the crew messes; this process would result in a lot of spilled, cold and delayed food in rough weather.

The US was prepared to pay a great deal of money for smaller and lighter machinery, which meant that American warships could be better armed
and armored on the same displacement. Moreover, the US paid far greater attention to crew well-being. The RN was astounded -- and some were appalled -- to discover that the United States installed ice cream machines on every destroyer.

Apparently some officers wanted to remove the ice-cream machines from purchased warships, but were overruled, happily for the crews. The book is very well illustrated with diagrams, tables, and photographs; the main body is supplemented with appendixes on special topics like ship stability, costs, and so forth. Feb 09, Lee rated it liked it Shelves: military-history. I really only skimmed it, as this is very much a reference work. Andy rated it liked it Sep 06, Chris Millington rated it really liked it Mar 12, Charles rated it it was amazing Dec 26, Bob Alexander rated it really liked it Jul 29, Jonathan rated it it was amazing Oct 01, Simon Prior rated it really liked it Nov 26, Steve Griffith rated it really liked it Dec 05, Richard rated it it was amazing Feb 09, Andy rated it really liked it Oct 9, Romanko rated it it was Nelson to Vanguard: Warship Design and Development 1923 - 1945 Oct 01, Simon Prior rated it really liked it Nov 26, Steve Griffith rated it really liked it Jan 14, Jeff rated it it was amazing Oct 01, Garrett Olinde rated it really liked it Mar 11, Tom rated it it was amazing Nov 02, A rated it it was amazing Aug 13, Edward rated it it was amazing Nov 29, Stephen Shapiro rated it it was amazing Sep 18, Ty Beard rated it it was amazing Jan 03, Daniel rated it it was amazing May 26, Borge Arild rated it really liked it Sep 08, Kirk rated it really liked it Mar 22, Paul Holloway added it Feb 07, Billy Morris added it Apr 14, Jingyang added it Jun 22, Norman marked it as to-read Nov 24, William Vogel marked it as to-read Feb 16, Daniela marked it as to-read May 08, Adam Tyler marked it as to-read Jul 05, Cheryl marked it as to-read Sep 03, Shiloh Hunter marked it as to-read Mar 30, Ransom marked it as to-read Mar 02, Gregory S.

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David K. Brown — was a noted British naval architect. After joining the Admiralty he became a member of the Royal Corps of Nelson to Vanguard: Warship Design and Development 1923 - 1945 Constructors, rising through the ranks to become the Deputy Chief Naval Architect before retiring in Books by D.

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