

Two new aircraft carriers

The British government has ordered two new aircraft carriers. Each ship will carry 48 aircraft or 25 Chinook helicopters. The ships are so big that they won't fit in any British docks. New docks will have to be built for them.

The two carriers will cost £1.4 billion each. The HMS *Queen Elizabeth* will be finished in 2014. The HMS *Prince of Wales* will be finished in 2016.

CARRIER FACTS

- Weight - 75,000 tonnes
- Length - 274 metres
- Crew - 600 sailors.

The new aircraft carriers will be even larger than this one.