

# BENZITE

## Star System Data

System Name: Delta Pavonis [19.9 light-years (-4.3; 6.8; -18.2)]

Affiliation: Member, United Federation of Planets

System Type: (single) G5 V [dim, yellow dwarf]. Unusually bright for its spectral type, Delta Pavonis maybe beginning to evolve into a subgiant.

Inhabited Planets: Benzar [D. Pavonis IV, 1.20 AU (class M)].

Other Planets: Kalev [D. Pavonis I, 0.06 AU (class F)]; Tavlia [D. Pavonis II, 0.37 (K)]; Manzan [D. Pavonis III, 0.66 (K)]; Tenloz [D. Pavonis V, 4.86 (JA)]; Krath [D. Pavonis VI, 18.86 (JA)]; Ender [D. Pavonis VII, 39.15 (JB)]; Kerda [D. Pavonis VIII, 75.94 (G)].

Other Stellar Objects: Two asteroid belts, one [2.43 AU; 1.83 AU's thick (S-type)] lies between D. Pavonis IV and V; the second [9.22 AU; 4.57 AU's thick (C-type) between D. Pavonis V and VI. The Kuiper belt [43.97 AU; 18.40 AU's thick] and a sparse cometary Oort cloud orbit between 55 and 55,000 AU's.

Artificial Objects: Pavonis Solar Observatory [Kalev]; Highport [Benzar]; Tenloz Mining Facility and Processing Station [Tenloz]; Dytallix Facility 55, Krath Station Alpha [Krath].

## Planetary Data

Class: M

Position in System: 4 [1.20 AU (179,520,000 km)]

Planetary System: Benzar has no natural satellites.

### Planetary Size

Diameter: 14,656 km

Equatorial Circumference: 46,046 km

Total Surface Area: 674,850,176 sq km

### Planetary Conditions

Gravity: 1.27 g [6.07 density (iron-nickel, large metal core)]

Year/Day: 457.7 days/16.8 hours

Atmosphere: Dense nitrogen-oxygen [1.34 bars (0.80; 0.16 with 0.04 trace gases)]. Higher than average amounts of volcanic activity result rich amounts of methane, sulfur, ammonia, and similar toxic gases. Biodomes are required for none native inhabitants.

Hydrosphere: 82.1% surface water in several small seas; 8.2% glacial coverage.

Climate: Predominantly tropical with some temperate zones laying in streaks across the planet. Oceanic regions are small, but currents are warm; contributing to the heavy precipitation in most areas. Normal seasonal variation in most latitudes (monsoon followed by a relatively dryer season) [28.1° axial tilt (32.3° c; 78.2% humidity)].

## Lifeform Data

Sapient Species: Benzite

Population: 16.6 billion, plus fewer than one hundred thousand extraterrestrials

Tech. Index: Level six [antimatter]. Benzar is particularly advanced in biosciences and genetics.

Government: Meritocracy

Culture: Highly competitive and goal oriented, they are passionate to the point of obsession about their standing in comparison to others in regard to personal achievement.

Affiliation: U.F.P. member

Animal: Sparse

Vegetation: Extensive

Aquatic: Extensive

BENZITES	
ATTRIBUTES	
Fitness	2 [5]
Strength	-1
Vitality	+2
Coordination	2 [5]
Intellect	3 [5]
Logic	+2
Presence	2 [5]
Empathy	-1
Willpower	+2
Psi	0 [5]
SKILLS	
Culture (Benzite)	2 (3)
Engineering <i>OR</i> Sci., Any (choose)	2 (3)
History (Benzite)	1 (2)
Language(s)	
Benzite	2
World Knowledge (Benzar)	1 (2)
TYPICAL TRAITS	
Competitive	-1
Curious	+1
Mathematical Ability <i>OR</i> Sci. Genius	+3
Obsessive Tendencies	-3
Resistant	+4

## APPEARANCE AND PHYSIOLOGY

Humanoids with smooth, hairless skin molted bluish-green or bluish-purple. Benzites have a prominent nasal lobe, barbels hanging from the upper lip and either side of the mouth and two opposable thumbs on each hand. A respirator is required for them to breath in nonnative atmospheres. Medical advances make this unnecessary after 2372.

At birth Benzites are sickly, often have physical deformities and are incapable of breathing Benzar's exotic atmosphere. Immediately placed in a "birthing chamber," a fluid filled tank where they undergo genetic resequencing. This genetic adaptation gives them a hardiness beyond what their appearance would suggest; they have a potent resistance to most toxins.

Benzites from the same geostructure are so physically similar that they look identical to non-Benzites.

## SOCIETY

An engineered species created for an unknown purposes by "The Forebears." While one of Benzar's greatest mysteries, the topic of who the Forebears were and why they created the Benzites is a great social taboo.

Benzites are highly goal oriented and strive for efficiency and personal success. Individuals

maintain meticulous records of their goals, tracking failure and success. Ritual suicide, once common among those considered failures in Benzite society, has fallen into disfavor over the last half century and is now a somewhat rare occurrence.

Surveyed early by Terran explorers, the harsh atmosphere proved too great a challenge. Once founded, the Federation made Benzar one of the first planets to be protected by the Prime Directive. Contacted after Benzar's first warp test; it would take over a decade for Benzar to join the Federation (prior to membership Benzar participated in Starfleet's Officer Exchange Program). Despite an abhorrence to genetic engineering across the Federation, it is recognized as a necessity for Benzite survival. Benzites themselves share a taboo against abusing their genetic knowledge for making needless change.



## POLITICAL STRUCTURE

Each geostructure (great cities built of the vast crystal deposits) is an independent and fully sovereign entity governed by a council chosen based on merit. Every year each assesses the success of citizens; the leading citizens are appointed to serve on the council, which is the sole organ of government.

The Benzar Confederacy is a union of every geostructure. Each appoints members, based on merit, to a Confederacy Council. Having limited authority, the council deals only with matters relating to Benzar's external affairs.