

DET is the best tech and you should research it every time

What does DET stand for? Simple - DET Every Time. What does DET do? Easy - wins you games. When you use DET moving a ship into a system with a Frontier Token, you explore that token. That token is sometimes Shard of the Throne, which can be your 10th point and you win the game. One token for one point, it's pretty much the most efficient way to win. Haters will say "But Jonno, what if I don't draw a point? Then how could DET possibly be useful?". Firstly, by believing in the heart of the cards, all things are possible, so jot that down, secondly, 75% of all the frontier token rewards are worth AT LEAST one token, sometimes more. Oh no, I've gotten to move a ship into a point-earning position, and got paid back at least the cost of the token! DET is just handing you raw value and you dare scoff at these gifts. Shame on you. As if that wasn't enough, DET has no prerequisites, even Sardakk can get it every game!

Additionally, DET lets you retreat into empty systems. That's crazy good – you can push a fleet forward, get counterattacked, retreat forwards, lift your token somehow, and now you can strike their homesystem and win the game. You've moved 3 systems with a 1 movement fleet! Movement is king in TI, and DET lets you move in a way no one else can. The only shame here is that you can't explore the system you just retreated into, but hey, there needs to be some balance for such an OP tech.

If logic doesn't sway you, let's look at the evidence. I have won every competitive game of TI in which I teched DET, and I have lost every competitive game where I didn't tech it. In the only competitive game which I won without getting DET I was playing Nekro, and no one else teched it, how clear is that? Get DET = win, don't get DET = lose.

Here is an easy tier list of factions based on their ease of getting DET to help you decide who to play next:

Starts with DET	 
Can start with DET	
Can get DET if Tech pops first action	
Can comfortably get DET first round	
Unlikely DET first round	

So that's about it – DET is the best tech in the game and you should always get it if you want to win games. Thank you for your time.