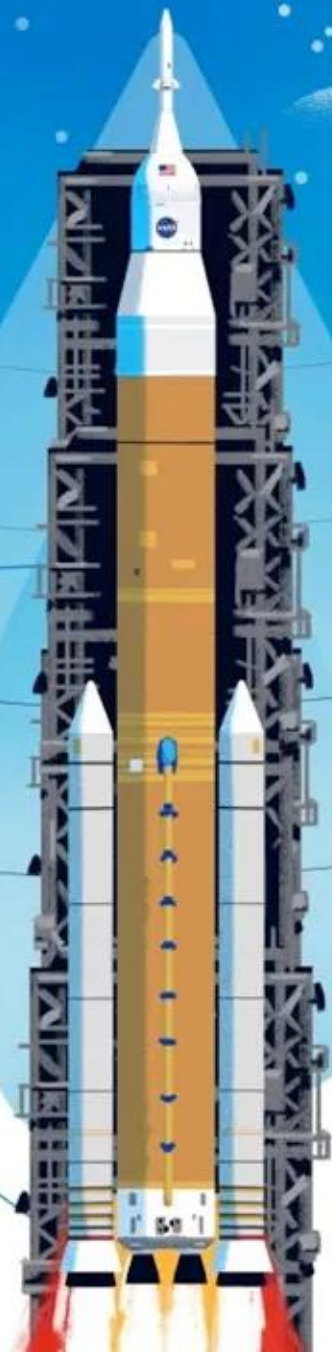


HOW WE ARE GOING TO THE MOON



1

00:00:01,310 --> 00:00:08,700

Between 1968 and 1972, America launched 9 human missions to the Moon, 6 of which successfully

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00:00:08,700 --> 00:00:12,900

touched down, allowing 12 men to walk on the lunar surface.

3

00:00:12,900 --> 00:00:18,890

NASA's next chapter of lunar exploration, called Artemis, has the task of not just going

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00:00:18,890 --> 00:00:24,470

to the Moon, to create a long-term human presence on and around it, but also to prepare for

5

00:00:24,470 --> 00:00:27,679

ever-more-complex human missions to Mars.

6

00:00:27,679 --> 00:00:33,320

In short, everything we must be able to do here, we must first do here.

7

00:00:33,320 --> 00:00:38,890

So, what will an Artemis mission look like?

8

00:00:38,890 --> 00:00:44,210

Everything is designed and tested with our most important element in mind: the astronauts.

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00:00:44,210 --> 00:00:50,170

This is their deep space, human-rated spacecraft called Orion, built in 3 parts: the crew module,

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00:00:50,170 --> 00:00:54,570

where up to 4 astronauts will live and work throughout the flight; the service module,

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00:00:54,570 --> 00:00:58,870

with life support systems for the crew and its own engine and fuel reserves; and a launch

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00:00:58,870 --> 00:01:03,330
abort system, with engines capable of pulling the crew module to safety during launch, should

13
00:01:03,330 --> 00:01:04,820
anything go wrong.

14
00:01:04,820 --> 00:01:09,509
To accomplish the task of launching our crew and heavy payloads, NASA is building the Space

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00:01:09,509 --> 00:01:14,170
Launch System, comprising of a cargo hold, an Exploration Upper Stage, a massive core

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00:01:14,170 --> 00:01:16,840
stage and 2 extended solid rocket boosters.

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00:01:16,840 --> 00:01:20,210
All together, this is the world's most powerful rocket.

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00:01:20,210 --> 00:01:25,590
And it exceeds the legendary Saturn V of the Apollo era in numerous ways.

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00:01:25,590 --> 00:01:30,759
Sitting on the launch pad, the entire rocket, fully fueled, weighs just over 6 million pounds,

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00:01:30,759 --> 00:01:33,969
5.2 million of which is just the fuel.

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00:01:33,969 --> 00:01:37,409
Once ignited, there is no stopping what comes next.

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00:01:37,409 --> 00:01:43,030

All 4 RS-25 engines and the 2 solid rocket boosters come to life, thundering our crew

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00:01:43,030 --> 00:01:44,030

upwards.

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00:01:44,030 --> 00:01:47,469

Two minutes after ignition, the solid rocket boosters are spent and released.

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00:01:47,469 --> 00:01:52,090

Eight minutes after launch, the core stage is depleted and separated.

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00:01:52,090 --> 00:01:57,240

The upper stage fires briefly, placing Orion into a parking orbit around the Earth.

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00:01:57,240 --> 00:02:01,880

Here, the crew reconfigure the spacecraft and check systems to confirm everything is

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00:02:01,880 --> 00:02:03,829

ready for deep space travel.

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00:02:03,829 --> 00:02:09,710

With a "go" from Mission Control, the crew reignite the Exploration Upper Stage engines

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00:02:09,710 --> 00:02:14,310

to leave Earth entirely. The exact timing of this maneuver is critical to reach a speed

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00:02:14,310 --> 00:02:19,849

that can escape Earth's gravitational pull, but also put Orion on a course that will intersect

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00:02:19,849 --> 00:02:22,069

the Moon days later.

33
00:02:22,069 --> 00:02:26,390
Once this burn is complete, the upper stage of the SLS is jettisoned and the crew on board

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00:02:26,390 --> 00:02:31,420
Orion coast for several days toward all that awaits them at the Moon.

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00:02:31,420 --> 00:02:36,260
Approaching the Moon, we see the fundamental differences between Artemis and Apollo.

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00:02:36,260 --> 00:02:40,600
Instead of requiring Orion to serve as an expendable lunar command module or carry a

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00:02:40,600 --> 00:02:45,420
constrained lunar lander, the Artemis missions will take advantage of a different approach:

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00:02:45,420 --> 00:02:47,209
pre-staging.

39
00:02:47,209 --> 00:02:50,510
Everything needed for lunar missions will be positioned in advance by commercial and

40
00:02:50,510 --> 00:02:52,689
international partners.

41
00:02:52,689 --> 00:02:56,610
This includes rovers, science experiments and human-rated systems on the surface.

42
00:02:56,610 --> 00:03:01,849
But it also includes a dedicated lunar station in orbit around the Moon, called Gateway.

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00:03:01,849 --> 00:03:07,579

Here at the station, we can pre-stage a robust lunar lander and establish a strong communications

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00:03:07,579 --> 00:03:09,019

relay.

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00:03:09,019 --> 00:03:13,409

Designed with open standards, the Gateway can be expanded as new missions and partnerships

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00:03:13,409 --> 00:03:17,909

develop, allowing multiple human missions on the Moon at the same time, and enabling

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00:03:17,909 --> 00:03:21,830

ongoing science to be conducted even between human missions.

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00:03:21,830 --> 00:03:26,720

The Gateway is also capable of adjusting its orbit to allow access to every part of the

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00:03:26,720 --> 00:03:28,930

Moon, something the Apollo missions could not do.

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00:03:28,930 --> 00:03:33,890

But the real key in this approach is placing Gateway in a unique halo orbit to perfect

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00:03:33,890 --> 00:03:35,859

the maneuvers needed for Mars missions.

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00:03:35,859 --> 00:03:41,140

And, with a growing list of commercial and international opportunities, Gateway is the

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00:03:41,140 --> 00:03:44,720

ideal hub between Earth and all that lies beyond.

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00:03:44,720 --> 00:03:49,129

Returning to our crew as they approach Gateway, the Orion must match the elliptical orbit

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00:03:49,129 --> 00:03:51,620

of the station in order to successfully dock.

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00:03:51,620 --> 00:03:56,370

Once on board, preselected crew members transfer to the lunar lander while those assigned to

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00:03:56,370 --> 00:03:57,650

Gateway remain on station.

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00:03:57,650 --> 00:04:04,310

The lunar lander system itself is built for 3 unique steps: descending from the halo orbit

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00:04:04,310 --> 00:04:10,379

of Gateway down to a low lunar orbit; descending from low lunar orbit to the surface; and once

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00:04:10,379 --> 00:04:14,870

the lunar mission is complete, launching from the surface of the Moon and ascending all

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00:04:14,870 --> 00:04:22,590

the way back to the orbiting Gateway.

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00:04:22,590 --> 00:04:26,620

Once back aboard the Orion spacecraft and undocked from Gateway, the crew fire their

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00:04:26,620 --> 00:04:32,190

engines to break out of the halo orbit and once again to sling the spacecraft around

64
00:04:32,190 --> 00:04:37,860
the Moon, placing it on a multi-day trajectory
back towards Earth.

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00:04:37,860 --> 00:04:42,220
As they near the end of this journey, the
service module is released and the crew module

66
00:04:42,220 --> 00:04:44,800
is oriented heat shield-first.

67
00:04:44,800 --> 00:04:49,759
Entering Earth's atmosphere at 25,000 miles
per hour, the friction of air slows Orion

68
00:04:49,759 --> 00:04:54,930
considerably, while also subjecting it to
temperatures of 5,000 degrees.

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00:04:54,930 --> 00:05:00,470
With the Orion now at just 300 miles per hour,
a series of parachutes uniquely tested and

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00:05:00,470 --> 00:05:07,450
produced for this moment deploy, decelerating
the craft to just 20 miles per hour for splashdown.

71
00:05:07,450 --> 00:05:14,819
With each successful mission, Artemis ushers
in the next wave of men and women to explore

72
00:05:14,819 --> 00:05:15,819
our Moon.