

PPK (Personal Preference Kit)

What would you pack for the moon? Astronauts have strict guidelines. Make your packing list following these guidelines.

You will have a space that is 5 x 8 x 2 inches in volume (a carry-on suitcase is 9 x 14 x 22 inches). You may include up to 20 items.

*A psychological support team will provide **crew care packages**. These are personal items that are sent for the wellbeing of crewmembers. These might include books, CDs, religious supplies, and favorite condiments.

*You will have a **separate clothing allowance**. You might pack a sweatshirt from your alma mater to wear in space!

*Your **OFK (Official Flight Kit)** can include mementos for family members and your support team. You might take a set of patches or pins with you into space. When you return, you can share these items with family and colleagues.

ACES

Advanced Crew Escape Suit

Color: Orange – Why? It's highly visible for search and rescue, especially sea rescue.

Uses: Launch and entry suit

Purpose: These are pressurized suits for flying at high altitudes. They contain medicine, a radio, flares, survival gear, and a parachute.

Nickname: Pumpkin suit



EVA

Extra-Vehicular Activities

Uses: Spacewalk suit

Color: White – Why? White reflects more sunlight than other colors. This helps to shield astronauts from radiation and makes the astronauts easy to spot in the blackness of space.

Purpose: These bulkier suits contain multiple layers of heavy fabric and insulation. They are designed for survival during harsh conditions and can protect against small debris in space.

Other features: If an astronaut is too cold, the gloves contain heaters to warm up fingers.

Blue Flight Jumpsuit

Uses: Training Exercises

Color: Blue – Why? They help to clearly identify the astronauts from other personnel.

Purpose: They are worn during training sessions and public appearances.

Other features: There is a NASA logo on the right and an American flag on the left shoulder.

Rocket Boosters

Purpose: The boosters are responsible for the power that thrusts the shuttle into space upon lift-off.

Release: When the ship is 24 miles high, the boosters break off from the rest of the rocket. The parachutes deploy and they fall into the Atlantic Ocean where they are recovered. These are refurbished for future use.

Concerns: In 2021, a booster from a Chinese rocket did not follow the planned course. Most of it broke up in the atmosphere but there were concerns pieces could fall onto land and cause injuries. Another concern is debris accumulating in space. If the boosters break away in space, debris can go into orbit and pose a threat for astronauts and other space vehicles.

Snoopy on Artemis 1

History: NASA and Snoopy creator Charles M. Schulz first partnered over 50 years ago. During the Apollo missions, Snoopy was used to encourage spaceflight.

Silver Snoopy Award: This high honor is awarded to NASA employees and contractors by astronauts. It is a symbol to celebrate achievements related to mission success and human flight safety. Each of these silver pins was flown in space. Artemis 1 carried a package of Silver Snoopy pins for future recognitions.

Artemis Generation: Snoopy wore a custom orange flight suit for his journey around the moon. Snoopy flew on the mission as a zero gravity indicator. This is an item that travels on a spacecraft to provide a visual indicator when a spacecraft has reached the weightlessness of microgravity.

A background image showing the Gemini III spacecraft in space, with an American flag visible. Astronaut John W. Young is visible in his spacesuit, standing on the lunar surface.

Astronaut John W. Young

Did you know? Astronaut John W. Young hid a corned beef sandwich in his spacesuit on the Gemini III flight in 1965.

NASA In-Flight Meals: One goal of the mission was to evaluate NASA's flight food packaging and the disposal of the packaging after eating. The astronauts had complained about the taste of the foods. They were dehydrated and cold water was added before eating them.

Young's Actions: Young thought it would be funny to sneak a sandwich on board. Two hours into the flight, he pulled it out of his spacesuit. When flight commander Gus Grissom took a bite, the pungent smelling sandwich crumbled. Worried crumbs would get into the cabin, Grissom quickly placed it in his own suit.

Outcomes: Members of congress were upset that Young could have endangered the mission and the crew. Afterwards, NASA created a set of rules addressing what astronauts could and could not take onboard a spacecraft.

Young's Career: Despite his action on the Gemini III, Young had a successful career. He was the first astronaut to fly to space six times. Young later served as the chief of the Astronaut Office for 13 years.