



NASA to Launch Crewed Artemis 2 Mission to Moon

Description

NASA is set to launch its first crewed mission beyond low Earth orbit in over 53 years. On Wednesday evening, four astronauts will begin the Artemis 2 mission, which is intended to orbit the Moon and return to Earth. This mission marks a significant step toward future human exploration of the Moon and Mars.

The mission is led by Reid Wiseman, alongside fellow NASA astronauts Victor Glover and Christina Koch, and Canada's Jeremy Hansen. According to NASA Associate Administrator Amit Kshatriya, this flight is crucial for the "campaign" of establishing lunar landings and a base on the Moon, followed by deeper space exploration.

The countdown for the launch officially started at 4:44 p.m. EDT on Monday, with final preparations ongoing. Launch Director Charlie Blackwell-Thompson will assess readiness for the fueling of the massive 322-foot Space Launch System rocket on Wednesday morning. The launch is expected at 6:24 p.m. EDT during a two-hour window.

The 45th Weather Squadron predicts a 20 percent chance of weather issues during the launch. Although isolated showers may occur, Launch Weather Officer Mark Burger believes there will be enough clear conditions for a successful launch. He stated that the risk of weather problems is low, making conditions "very much 'go'."

If the launch proceeds smoothly, the crew will prepare for liftoff by getting into their flight suits around 5.5 hours beforehand. After final farewells with family, they will travel to the launch pad, where a closeout crew will help them board the Orion spacecraft, named 'Integrity.'

Following the launch, the mission will include key maneuvers to establish an orbit for their journey to the Moon. By Thursday, NASA will decide if the spacecraft is prepared for the trans-lunar injection burn, further committing the crew to their lunar adventure.

Vocabulary List:

1. **crewed** //kru:d// (adjective): with people on board the vehicle
2. **orbit** //ˈɔrbɪt// (verb): to travel around a planet or star
3. **assess** //ə'ses// (verb): to judge how good or ready something is
4. **fueling** //ˈfju:əlɪŋ// (noun): putting fuel into a rocket or vehicle
5. **maneuvers** //mə'nu:vərz// (noun): careful or planned movements to control something
6. **countdown** //ˈkaʊn.daʊn// (noun): the count of time before an event



Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What is the name of NASA's first crewed mission beyond low Earth orbit in over 53 years?

- Option: Artemis 1
- Option: Artemis 2
- Option: Apollo 11
- Option: Explorer 5

2. Who is the mission leader for Artemis 2?

- Option: Victor Glover
- Option: Reid Wiseman
- Option: Christina Koch
- Option: Jeremy Hansen

3. What time is the launch of Artemis 2 expected?

- Option: 4:44 p.m. EDT
- Option: 6:24 p.m. EDT
- Option: 5:30 p.m. EDT
- Option: 7:00 p.m. EDT

4. Which team is responsible for monitoring the weather during the launch?

- Option: NASA Space Network
- Option: Ground Control Team
- Option: 45th Weather Squadron
- Option: Mission Control

5. How long before liftoff do the crew members don their flight suits?

- Option: 3 hours
- Option: 5.5 hours
- Option: 1 hour
- Option: 10 hours

6. What is the name of the spacecraft that the crew will board?

- Option: Discovery



- Option: Integrity
- Option: Endeavour
- Option: Orion

True-False

- 7. Artemis 2 is intended to orbit Mars and return to Earth.
- 8. The launch is scheduled for a two-hour window.
- 9. The crew will travel to the launch pad after being in their flight suits.
- 10. Reid Wiseman is assisted by only American astronauts.
- 11. Amit Kshatriya is the NASA Associate Administrator involved with Artemis 2.
- 12. The predicted chance of weather issues during the launch is 50 percent.

Gap-Fill

13. NASA is launching its first crewed mission beyond low Earth orbit in over 53 years on

_____.

14. The mission is crucial for establishing lunar landings and a base on the Moon and deeper space

_____.

15. Launch Director Charlie Blackwell-Thompson will assess readiness for _____

on Wednesday morning.

16. The crew will prepare for liftoff by getting into their flight suits around _____

hours beforehand.



17. Following the launch, key maneuvers will establish an orbit for their journey to the _____.

18. By Thursday, NASA will decide if the spacecraft is prepared for the trans-lunar _____ burn.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Artemis 2 2. Reid Wiseman 3. 6:24 p.m. EDT 4. 45th Weather Squadron 5. 5.5 hours 6. Integrity

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. Wednesday evening 14. exploration 15. fueling 16. 5.5 17. Moon 18. injection

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL5

POST TAG

1. artemis 2
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. Level 5
5. Moon-bound mission
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