

U.S. MANNED SPACEFLIGHT ERA

Mercury & Gemini & Apollo Timeline

PROJECT MERCURY (1958-1963)

May 1961 Freedom 7: Alan Shepard becomes the first American in space.

Feb 1962 Friendship 7: John Glenn becomes the first American to orbit Earth.

May 1963 Faith 7: Final Mercury mission; Gordon Cooper completes 22 orbits.

PROJECT GEMINI (1961-1966)

Mar 1965 Gemini III: First crewed Gemini flight (Grissom & Young).

June 1965 Gemini IV: Ed White performs the first American spacewalk (EVA).

Dec 1965 Gemini VI-A / VII: First space rendezvous between two crewed craft.

Nov 1966 Gemini XII: Final mission; Buzz Aldrin sets record for EVA duration.

PROJECT APOLLO (1961-1972)

Jan 1967 Apollo 1: Tragic fire during pre-launch test.

Dec 1968 Apollo 8: First humans to orbit the Moon.

July 1969 Apollo 11: Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walk on the Moon.

Apr 1970 Apollo 13: "Successful failure" after oxygen tank explosion.

Dec 1972 Apollo 17: Final lunar landing mission.