

Mission Patches:

Mission Patch

Your task is to develop a mission patch that reflects your upcoming Challenger Learning Center mission. Your patch will be mounted in Mission Control. Because the Challenger Learning Center stresses team work, the entire class should have input in its design.

1. The patch must be drawn on a sheet of paper no larger than 8 ½ x 5 ½. (half sheet of paper)
2. The patch must be only two-dimensional.
3. Although most patches are usually round or oval, there are no restrictions on its shape. Extensions such as wings, comet tails, vector symbol, etc, may protrude from the basic shape but they cannot exceed the boundaries of the sheet of paper.
4. There is no limit to the colors used but solid deep colors show the cleanest image.
5. Your school name and date of flight must be found on the patch, although their size and position is your choice. Other information is welcome, but optional.
6. Students should be able to explain the symbolism used in their drawings.
7. Many teachers have all students make their own individual patches and then the class votes on one patch to represent their class. Bring this one patch with you to the mission.

Note: Challenger keeps all patches for records and displays. If you want to keep a copy of your patch please make a color copy before arriving for your mission.

Apollo 8 Mission Patch

The Apollo 8 patch is a lovely design. The general shape of the patch reflects the shape of the Apollo command Module, and is roughly the shape of "A" for Apollo. The red "8" denotes both the mission number and the circumlunar trajectory of the mission. The crew members were Frank F. Borman II, James A. Lovell, Jr and William A. Anders.



Apollo 17 Mission Patch

The golden face of Apollo, Greek god of the Sun, was laid on top of a contemporary drawing of an American eagle. Red bars in the wings reflected our flag, and were topped by three white stars representing our crew. A deep blue background featured the Moon.



51-L Mission Patch

This patch symbolizes the mission of shuttle flight 51-L – to fly, to explore, to teach. The shuttle, being launched from the United States of America, encircles the planet to signify its U.S. presence in space to explore new frontiers. The shuttle in flight with open cargo doors represents the 51-L mission to launch a communication satellite (TDRS), to collect data from Comet Halley, and to conduct scientific experiments. The apple next to the teacher's name signifies the educational mission of the crew to touch the future through the lessons taught in space. The scene is encircled by the surnames of the crew members. They were astronauts Francis R. (Dick) Scobee, Commander; Michael J. Smith, pilot; Ron McNair, Ellison Onizuka, and Judy Resnik, mission specialists; Greg Jarvis, payload specialist; and Christa McAuliffe, teacher.



STS-42 (IML-1) Mission Patch

The STS-42 International Microgravity Lab-1 (IML-1) patch depicts the Orbiter with the Spacelab module aboard. The spacecraft is oriented in a quiescent, tail-to-Earth, gravity-gradient attitude to best support the various microgravity payloads and experiments. The international composition of the crew is depicted by symbols representing Canada and the European Space Agency. The number 42 is represented by six white stars: four on one side of the Orbiter and two on the other. The single gold star above the Earth's horizon honors the memory of captain Manley L. "Sonny" Carter: crewmate, colleague, and friend.

