

# Astronautics

## The History of Space Exploration

This book provides insight into the wide-ranging impact that space exploration has had on technology, politics, and society. *Astronautics* is presented as **two volumes**, each covering a specific phase of mankind's progress.

**Dawn of the Space Age** describes the period from Copernicus to the first artificial satellite programs of the United States and the former Soviet Union. It explains the requirements of the first manned spacecraft (Vostok and Mercury) and the selection and experiences of the first astronauts.

**To the Moon and Towards the Future** examines the Gemini, Voskhod, Soyuz and Apollo programs. It reviews the most complex machine devised by man—the Space Shuttle and details the evolution of the ISS space station. It highlights the effort to find extraterrestrial life and the exploration of the outer planets. It examines advanced propulsion technologies and speculates on what might lie ahead in space exploration.

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