

• Tinker Camp Day 1 •

Make Your Own Mission Patch

You'll need

printable mission
patch templates
crayons or markers
scissors
glue

Step 1

Color in your favorite mission patch shape, then cut it out.

Step 2

Color in and cut out the space symbols you like best. Place them on your mission patch to create a unique design. (Leave some room for a logo, if you want to add one.) When you're happy with your design, glue down the symbols.

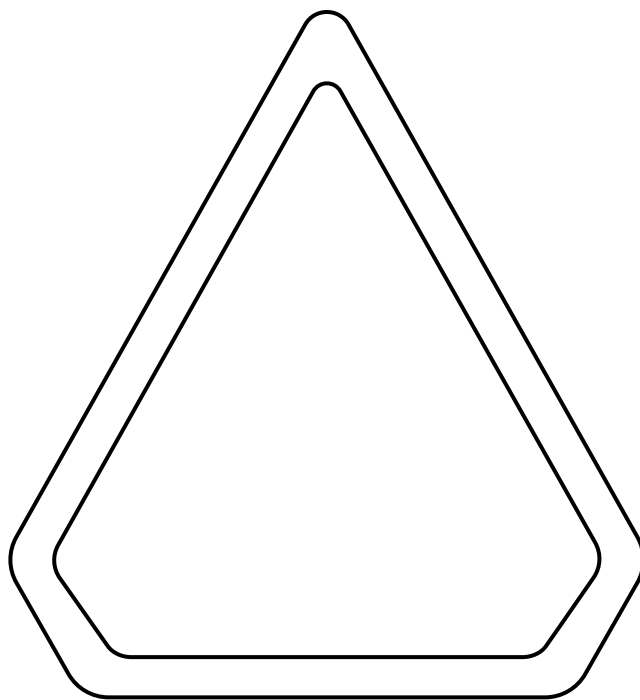
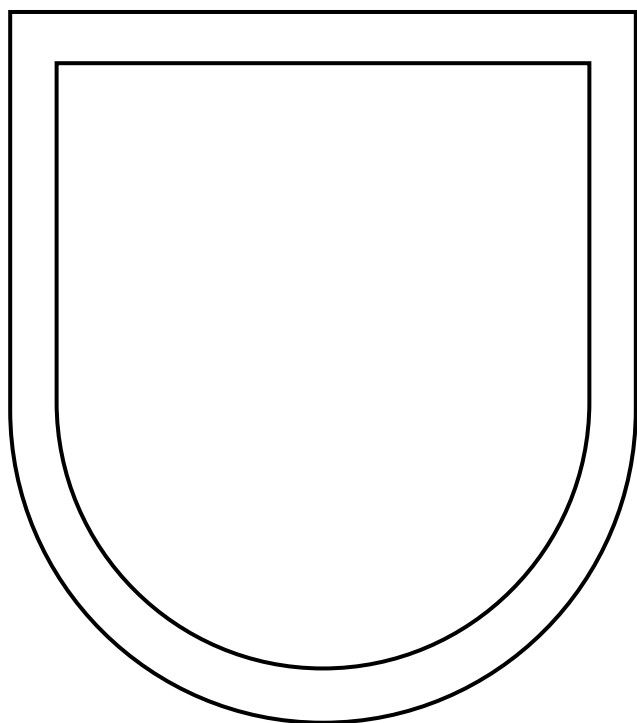
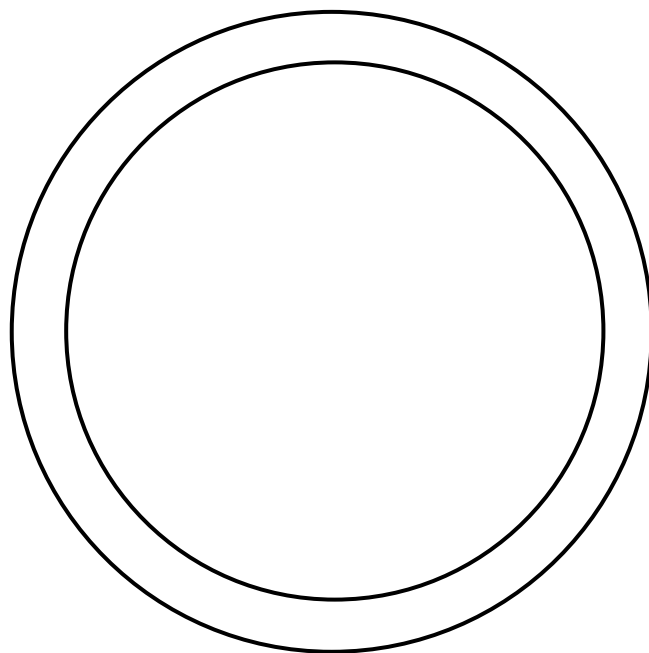
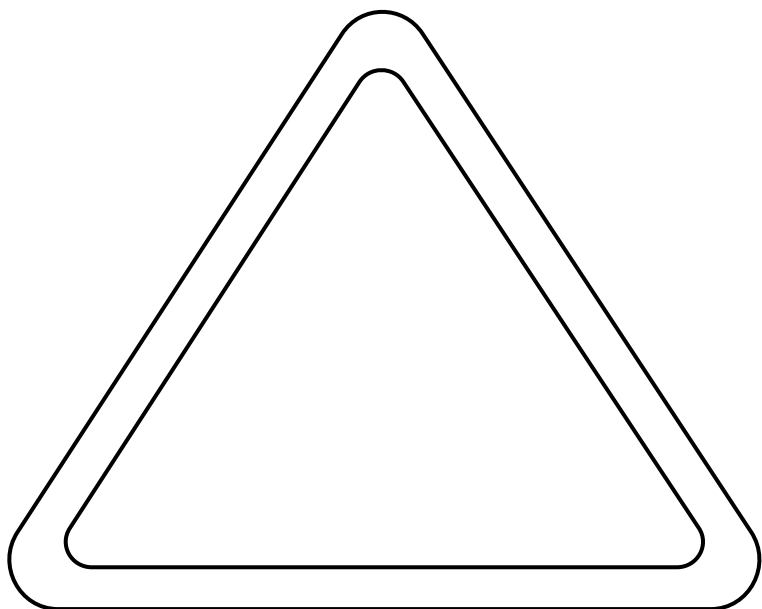
Step 3


Think about what you want your mission patch to say. Is it the name of your team, the name of a planet you're visiting, or a slogan for the mission? Come up with something short and catchy and add it to your mission patch, or use one of the logos from the templates.

Step 4

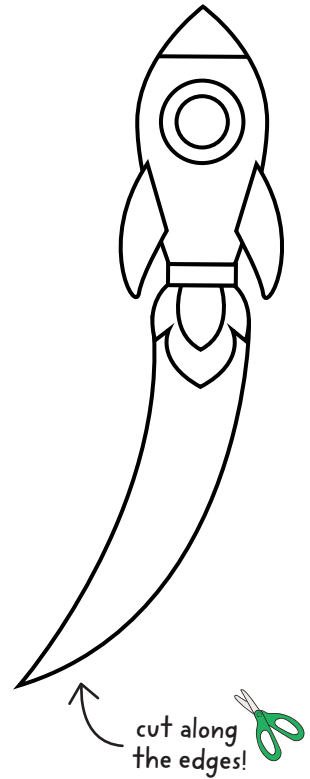
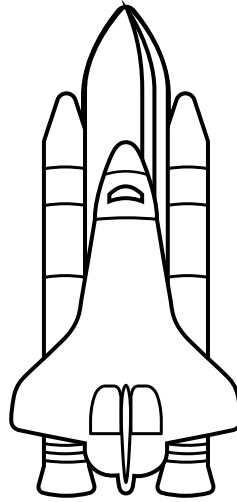
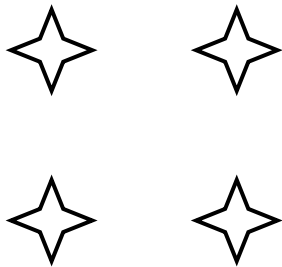
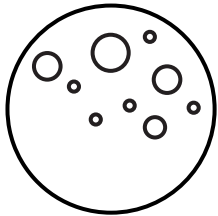
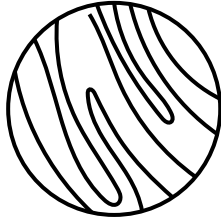
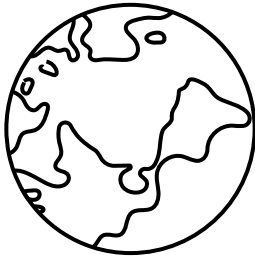
If you'd like, you can add more details that represent your mission. Doodle in a water droplet if you're searching for water on Mars. Or draw a flexing arm if you're going to be studying the effects of zero gravity on human muscles.

Mission patch shapes

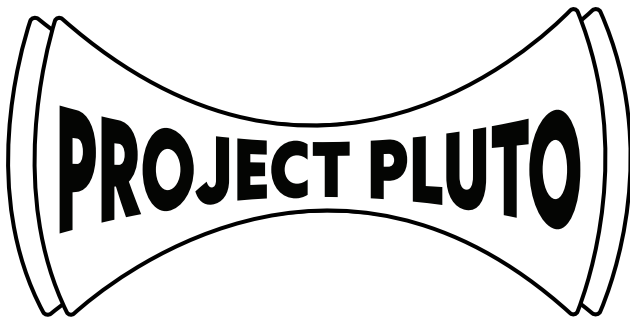


cut along
the edges! 

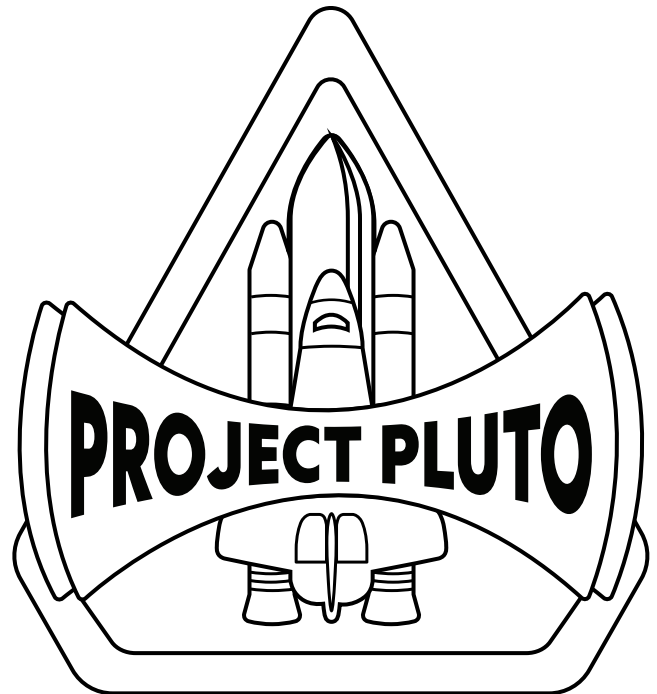
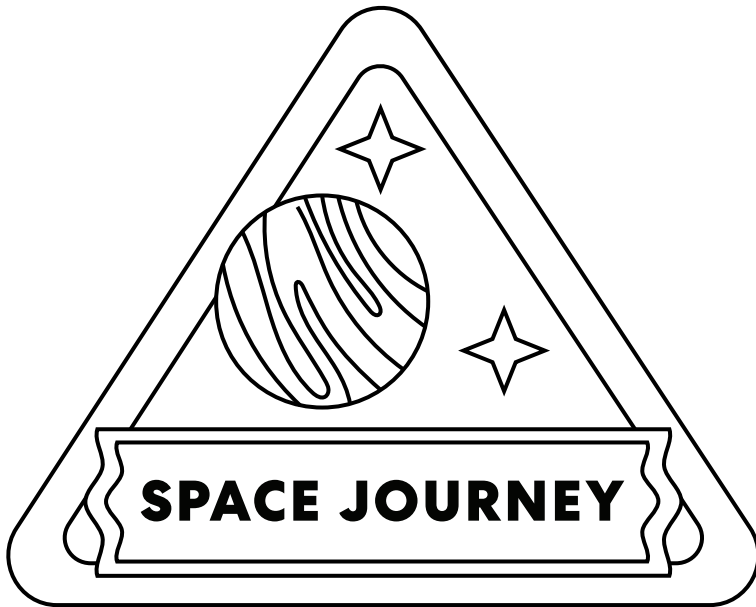
Space symbols



Patch logos



Patch inspiration



Mission patch facts

Since 1965, NASA astronauts have been rockin' mission patches on their gear. Some of them are iconic: like the Apollo 11 mission patch worn by Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins, the first people to land on the moon. But all patches — even the ones you might not recognize — are carefully designed to show pride in the people, purpose, and principles behind each mission.

They might be shaped like atoms or space shuttles. They might feature icons that we don't usually associate with space — like old-timey wagons and seafaring ships — that symbolize the spirit of adventure and uncharted exploration. They might even pay respect to astronauts of yore, like the patch for the STS-29 mission, which featured seven stars to honor the seven astronauts who lost their lives on the *Challenger* space shuttle.

Because astronauts know that to get to where you want to go, you need to remember where you came from — and who made it possible!

