Project Gemini

Ten Gemini crews flew low Earth orbit (LEO) missions during 1965 and 1966 to develop space travel techniques for the Apollo mission to land astronauts on the Moon.

Gemini 12

Gemini 3

Gemini 3 was a 1965 manned spaceflight in NASA's Project Gemini. It was the first manned Gemini flight, and flew three low-Earth orbits. The mission's primary goal was to test the new, maneuverable Gemini spacecraft. It made the first orbital maneuver by any manned spacecraft.

Gemini 4

Gemini 4 was a 1965 manned spaceflight in NASA's Project Gemini. It was the second manned Gemini flight, and circled Earth 66 times in four days. The highlight of the mission was the first space walk by an American.

"I'm coming back in, and it's the saddest moment of my life." Ed White, Pilot, G4

Gemini 4

Gemini 5

Gemini 5 was a 1965 manned spaceflight in NASA's Project Gemini. It was the third manned Gemini flight, and doubled the U.S space-flight record of the Gemini 4 mission to eight days, the length of time it would take to fly to the Moon, land and return. (Cape Kennedy, Florida - looking south.)

Gemini 6A

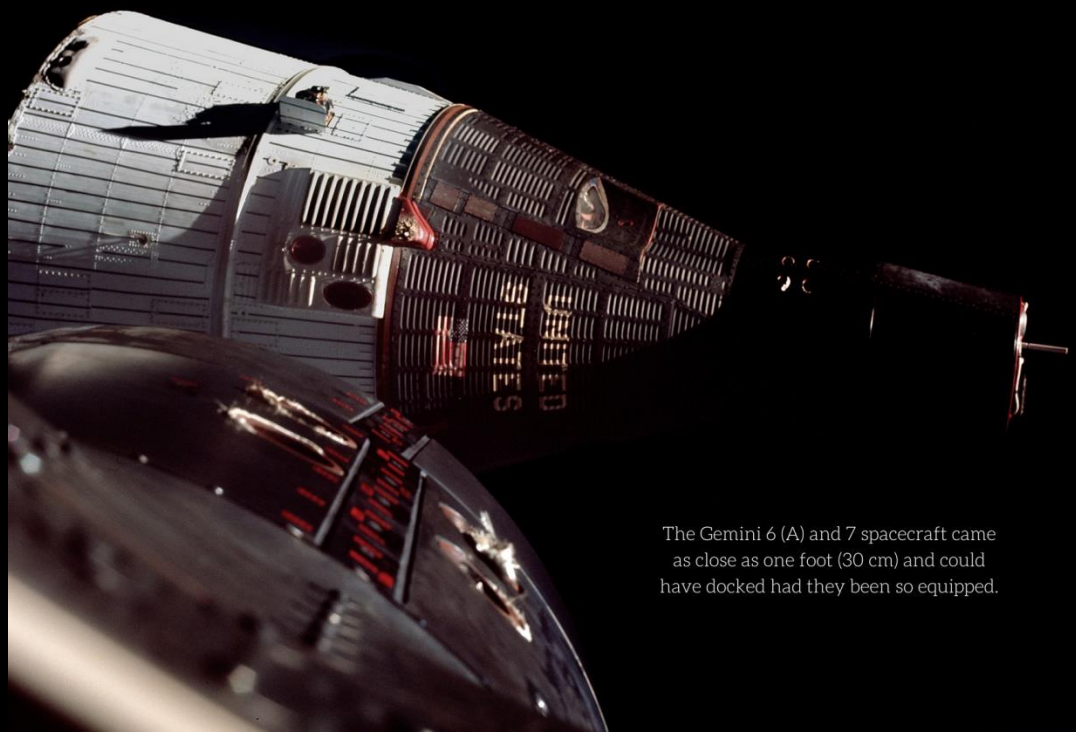
Gemini 6A was a 1965 manned United States spaceflight in NASA's Gemini program. It was the fifth manned Gemini flight, and achieved the first manned rendezvous with another spacecraft, Gemini 7. The crews moved as close as one foot (30 centimeters). (Note: Gemini 6A is seen from the perspective of Gemini 7.)

Gemini 7

Gemini 7 was a 1965 manned spaceflight in NASA's Gemini program. It was the fourth manned Gemini flight and the passive target for the first manned space rendezvous performed by the crew of Gemini 6A. It was a long duration flight, investigating the effects of fourteen days in space on the human body. (Note: Gemini 7 is seen from the perspective of Gemini 6A.)

"I was amazed at my ability to maneuver. I did a fly-around inspection of Gemini 7, literally flying rings around it, and I could move to within inches of it in perfect confidence."

Walter "Wally" Schirra Jr., Command Pilot, G6A

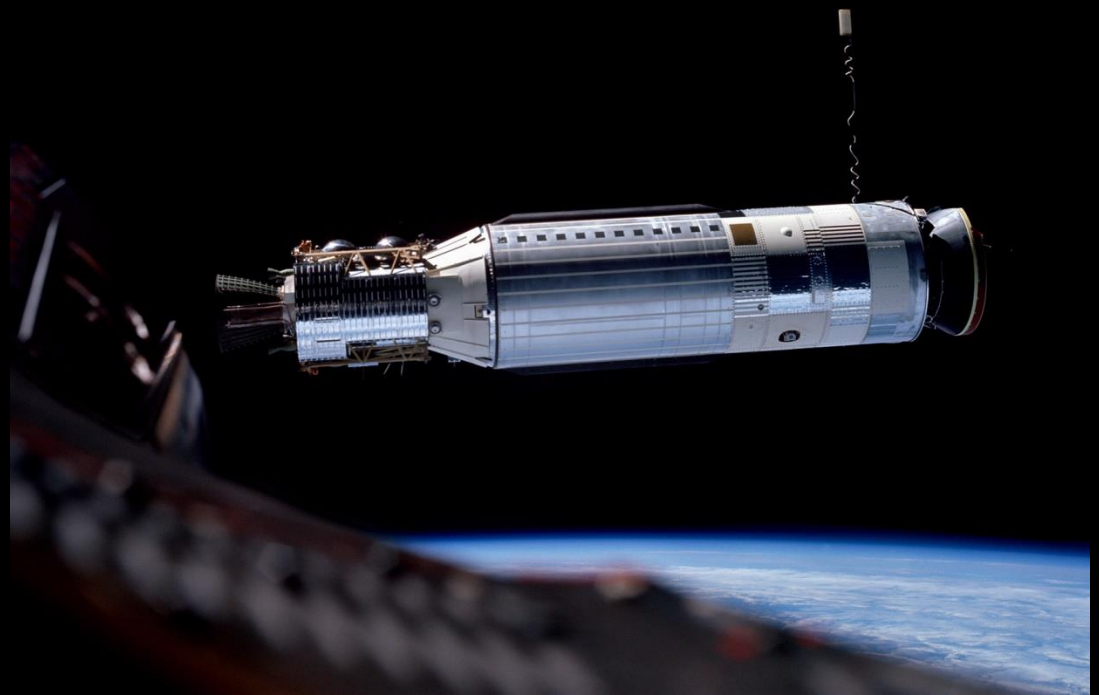


The Gemini 6 (A) and 7 spacecraft came as close as one foot (30 cm) and could have docked had they been so equipped.

Gemini 8

Agena target vehicle (GATV-5003)

Gemini 8 was the sixth manned spaceflight in NASA's Gemini program. The mission conducted the first docking of two spacecraft in orbit, but suffered the first critical in-space system failure of a U.S. spacecraft which threatened the lives of the astronauts and required immediate abort of the mission. The crew was returned to Earth safely.



Gemini 9A

Gemini 9A was a 1966 manned spaceflight in NASA's Gemini program. It was the 7th manned Gemini flight. The backup crew became the prime crew due to a fatal plane accident. The spacecraft rendezvoused with the ATDA, but it was unable to dock because the nose fairing failed to eject from the docking target.

Gemini 10

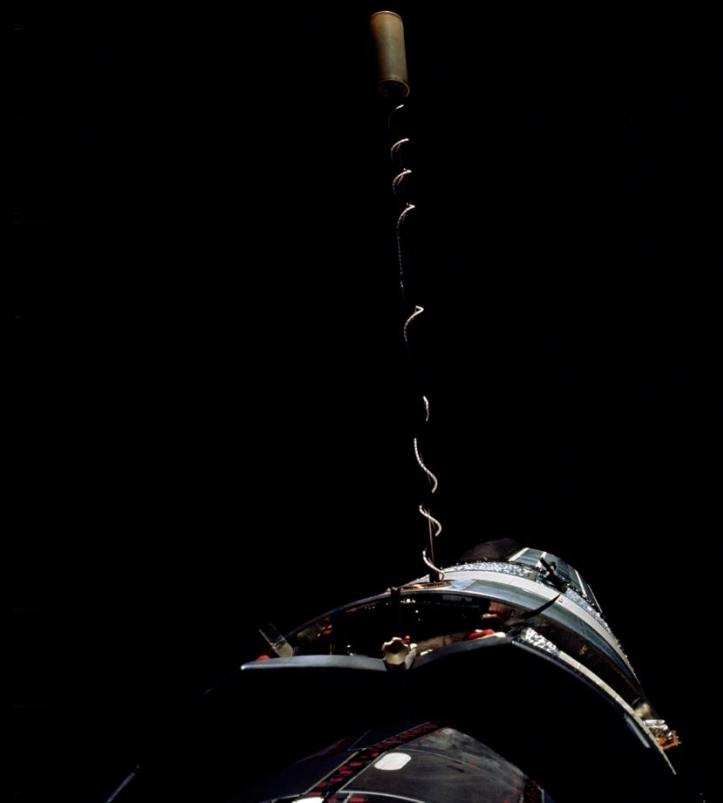
Agena target vehicle (GATV-5005)

Gemini 10 was a 1966 manned spaceflight in NASA's Gemini program. It was the 8th manned Gemini flight. It established that radiation at high altitude was not a problem. After docking with the Agena booster in low orbit, the astronauts used it to climb temporarily to 412.4 nautical miles.

Gemini 11

Agena target vehicle (GATV-5006)

Gemini 11 was a 1966 manned spaceflight in NASA's Project Gemini. It was the ninth manned Gemini flight, and performed the first-ever direct-ascent (first orbit) rendezvous with an Agena target vehicle.



Gemini 12

Agena target vehicle (GATV-5001A)

Gemini 12 was a 1966 manned spaceflight in NASA's Project Gemini. It was the 10th and final manned Gemini flight. It achieved the fifth rendezvous and fourth docking with an Agena target vehicle.

Gemini 12

This flight marked a successful conclusion of the Gemini program, achieving the last of its goals by successfully demonstrating that astronauts can effectively work outside of the spacecraft.

Buzz Aldrin
Pilot, G12

Images and text courtesy of NASA.

Image enhancement, poster production, and presentation by Tom R. Chambers (former research analyst at the Lunar Receiving Laboratory during the Apollo program).