



Australian Government



Australian
Space Agency

Space facts for future space agents

*Space is amazing! There is a universe of space facts to learn and share with your friends. We hope you find space as cool and interesting as we do at the **Australian Space Agency**.*

Australia in space – where are we now?

- **1961:** The Parkes Radio Telescope Observatory is established in NSW. At the time it is the largest in the southern hemisphere.
- **1967:** Australia launches its first satellite into space. Its name is WRESAT.
- **1969:** TV footage of Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon was brought to the world by Australian stations.
- **1970:** A satellite built by a group of students at the University of Melbourne called Australis OSCAR 5 is launched.
- **1984:** Dr Paul Scully-Power is the first Australian-born person to go to space.
- **1996:** Andy Thomas is the first Australian-born astronaut to go to space.
- **1998:** Australia introduces the Space Activities Act to ensure safe space activities.
- **2000:** Precision GPS (Global Positioning System) becomes available worldwide.
- **2018:** The Australian Space Agency is established.
- **2019:** Australia partners with NASA on their inspirational plan to travel to the Moon and on to Mars.
- **2020:** The Australian Space Agency's headquarters in Adelaide is opened by the Prime Minister.

For more information

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