

# NORTH AMERICAN X-15 MANNED ROCKET

FASTER THAN  
A SPEEDING BULLET

The North American X-15 Rocket Plane was a stepping stone between atmospheric flight and space flight. It was designed to study human and material factors involved in high-speed, high-altitude flight. Reaching into the fringes of space, several of the pilots of this manned missile earned "astronaut" rating, traveling to altitudes of greater than

**50 miles!**



SPECS..

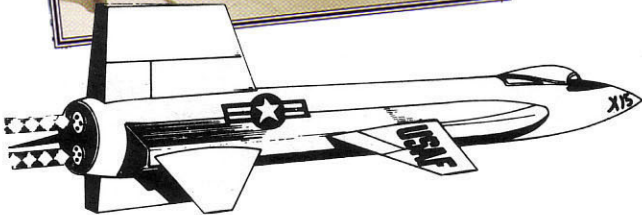
Wingspan: 22ft 4in  
Length: 50ft 7in  
Height: 13 ft  
Weight: 12,500 lb

BALL NOSE CONFIG.

MORE INFO AT [FIDDLERSGREEN.NET](http://FIDDLERSGREEN.NET)



Holding only enough fuel for 80 to 120 seconds of powered flight, the X-15 was carried aloft under the wing of a B-52 for a release at 45,000 ft. and 500 mph. After the brief rocket powered phase of the flight, the X-15 would continue unpowered for an additional 10 to 11 minutes ending with a 200 mph dead-stick landing on a dry lake bed.

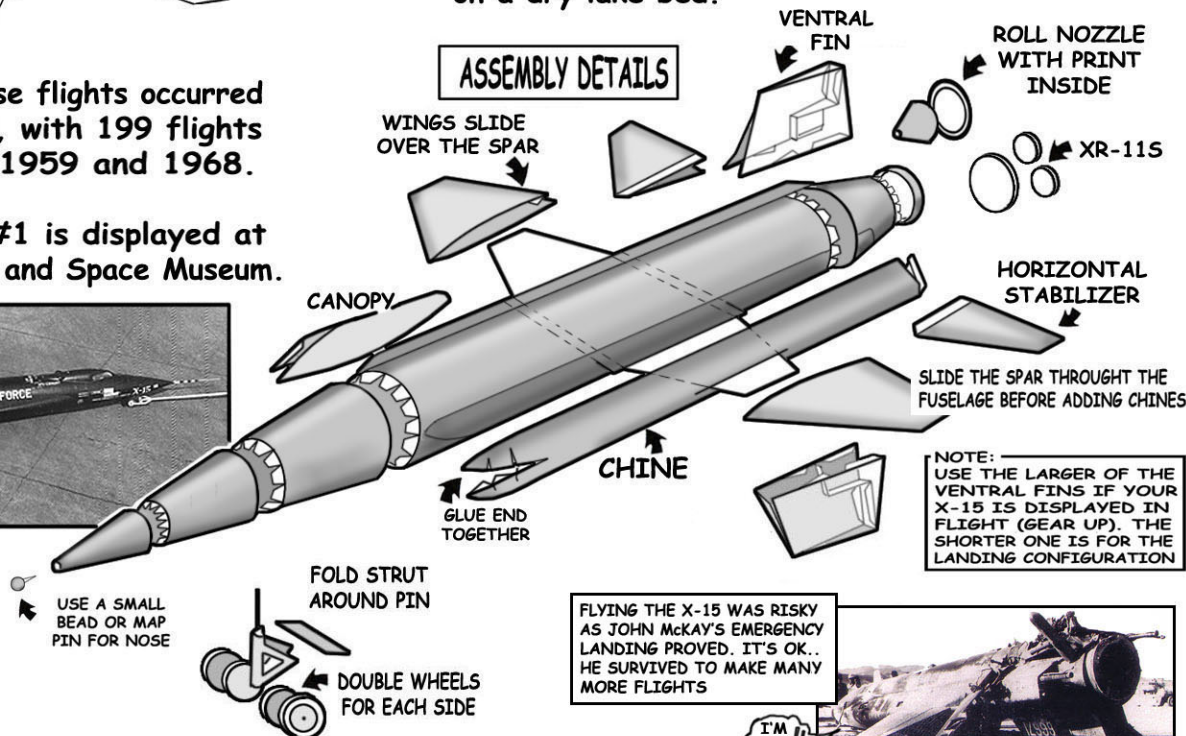


The first of these flights occurred Sept. 17, 1959, with 199 flights made between 1959 and 1968.

Historic X-15 #1 is displayed at the National Air and Space Museum.



## ASSEMBLY DETAILS



Thanks to  
Dr. Jim Cookson  
for this great  
X-15 Design

FLYING THE X-15 WAS RISKY AS JOHN MCKAY'S EMERGENCY LANDING PROVED. IT'S OK.. HE SURVIVED TO MAKE MANY MORE FLIGHTS

I'M OK!!

