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## Book Review: Space Shuttle: The History of the National Space Transportation System: The First 100 Missions

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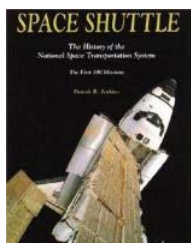
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# Space shuttle : the history of the National Space Transportation System: the first 100 missions 3rd ed



Jenkins, Dennis R. Voyager Press, 2001

513p, 0-9633974-5-1 \$39.95

LC Call Number: [TL795](#)

Jenkins offers a comprehensive and engaging story of the development of the US Space Shuttle, its operational characteristics, and the work done during its first 100 missions. The author, who lives in Cape Canaveral, was part of the Shuttle support team. He has assimilated a truly impressive collection of historical and technical documents. The book is so crammed with photos, drawings, and references on nearly every page that readers might be tempted to try to build their own Shuttles. Some pages are so dense with data they are hard to read. The author provides an especially interesting chapter on the design work, politics, and military-industrial competition that led to the final compromise Shuttle design. Also noteworthy is a chapter detailing the circumstances that led to the Challenger accident. Space enthusiasts will enjoy the color photo section that contains a folio of Shuttle mission patches and logos. An appendix contains a description of future safety and performance upgrades along with a list of NASA acronyms, the latter essential to understanding much of the book. This book is clearly a labor of love, and a true must-have for any Shuttle fan. All levels.

Summing Up:

Reviewer: [T. D. Oswalt](#), Florida Institute of Technology

Recommendation:

Readership Level: All Readership Levels, General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Researchers/Faculty, Two-Year Technical Program Students, Professionals/Practitioners

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: [Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy](#)