

International Space Station

- In which year was the first module of the *International Space Station (ISS)* launched?
 - 1995
 - 1998
 - 2005
- What is the average altitude of the *ISS*?
 - 160 km
 - 400 km
 - 1,250 km
- Beginning in what year has there been a continuous human presence on the *ISS*?
 - 2000
 - 2007
 - 2012
- Who was the first Canadian to serve as commander of the *ISS*?
 - Chris Hadfield
 - Steve MacLean
 - Marc Garneau
- Which are the international partners of the *ISS* program?
 - China and the United States
 - Canada, Germany, India, Russia, and the United States
 - Canada, Europe, Japan, Russia, and the United States
- What is the typical duration of a mission?
 - 1 month
 - 3 months
 - 6 months
- How many people usually live on the Space Station at the same time?
 - 3
 - 6
 - 9
- Which travels faster: a Formula 1 racing car or the *ISS*?
 - Formula 1 racing car
 - ISS*
 - They both travel approximately at the same speed

Answers:

- (B) The first module, Zarya, was launched on 20 November 1998.
- (B) The station is in low Earth orbit at an average altitude of 400 km.
- (A) Since the arrival of Expedition 1 in 2000, it has been inhabited without interruption.
- (A) He took command on 13 March 2013 during his third mission to space.
- (C) The five partners are NASA, the Canadian Space Agency, the European Space Agency, JAXA, and Roscosmos.
- (C) The typical assignment is about six months. Scott Kelly and Mikhail Kornienko lived on the *ISS* for a whole year to learn more about the long-term effects of living in space on the human body.
- (B) Usually six; they travel in crews of three in the Soyuz or on a commercial spacecraft.
- (B) Formula 1 cars can reach speeds of 360 km/h. The *ISS* orbits at 28,000 km/h, circling the globe 16 times per day!

Learn more: Quest has featured a number of articles on the *ISS*, including "The Space Station: A Laboratory for Policy Sustainment" by Jeff Bingham appearing in [Quest: Volume 13 #3](#)

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