

**SPACE SHUTTLE
STS-37/ATLANTIS**



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SPACE SHUTTLE (STS-37/ATLANTIS)

STS-37 CREW INSIGNIA — The principal theme of the STS-37 patch, designed by the astronaut crew, is the primary payload — Gamma Ray Observatory (GRO) — and its relationship to the Space Shuttle. The Shuttle orbiter and the GRO are both depicted on the emblem and are connected by a large gamma. The gamma symbolizes both the quest for gamma rays by GRO as well as the importance of the relationship between the manned and unmanned elements of our national space program. The Earth background shows the southern portion of the United States under a partial cloud cover while the two fields of three and seven stars, respectively, refer to the STS-37 mission designation. NASA's second Great Observatory for space astrophysics, the TRW-built GRO, is planned to orbit 279 miles above the Earth. The 35,000-pound GRO is the heaviest NASA payload yet deployed by shuttle. With a solar panel span of 70 feet, GRO provides both the power and size needed to accommodate four large experiments that will capture gamma rays from the distant parts of the universe. Crewmembers for STS-37 are astronauts Steven R. Nagel, commander; Kenneth D. Cameron, pilot; and Jerome Apt, Linda M. Godwin and Jerry L. Ross, mission specialists.