



Finding aid for

Jet Propulsion Laboratory Mars Video Gallery

Date range: 2002-2008

Finding Aid created by Mary Koeven, 2024

Summary Information

Hosting Website: Internet Archive (<http://www.archive.org>)

Archive Creator: Internet Archive user jakej (Archivist)

Original Video Creator: Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA

Extent: 86 digital video items copied into various formats, 56.6 GB (in 2,411 files)

File formats: MPEG4, H264, MPEG2, OGG Video

Abstract: The Jet Propulsion Laboratory Mars Video Gallery contains promotional and explanatory videos regarding NASA's Mars missions from 2002-2008. The videos deal with preparation, planning, launch, landing, and exploration of the Mars surface by rovers and orbital craft. The collection includes B-rolls, explanatory interviews, and other segments intended for media use. The intended audience is the general public.

URL: <https://archive.org/details/jetpropulsionlaboratorymarsvideo>

Language: The material is in English.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information: These records were created by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at NASA and uploaded to Internet Archive by user BonnieReal (Archivist) in 2009. The records were organized into a collection by user jakej (Archivist) on Nov 17, 2010.

Access Restrictions: The record group is freely available on the Internet Archive website.

Copyright: These videos are in the public domain.

Background Information

Purpose of Videos

Because NASA is a taxpayer-funded entity, it has always been necessary for them to keep the public informed of their activities. This collection contains videos for public education from 2002-2008 regarding NASA's unmanned missions to Mars. The videos were produced for internet streaming on NASA's website and for use by news outlets on the internet and television. Some videos were on display in museums and other educational sites. The videos in this collection were produced before social media sites like Facebook and YouTube were widely used. NASA's official Facebook pages were created in 2009, and their YouTube channel launched on June 3, 2008, after most of this collection was published.

Mars Missions

NASA has been sending spacecraft to Mars since the 1960s. The first craft to successfully land on Mars was *Viking 1*, which landed on July 20, 1976. The first rover to successfully drive on Mars was *Sojourner*, which landed on July 4, 1997.

The videos in this collection primarily focus on the *Mars Exploration Rover* and *Phoenix* missions. The goals of these missions were to analyze soil samples in a search for evidence of water and life, and to study the geology of Mars to build an understanding of the changes in Mars' climate over time.

Landing on Mars presents engineering challenges, which are discussed in the videos. Parachutes, heat shields, radar, lander automation, and extensive testing were all involved in the landing process for these spacecraft.

Mars Missions and Spacecraft Mentioned in This Collection

Most of the videos in this collection are about the *Mars Exploration Rover* and *Phoenix* missions. However, several other Mars missions are mentioned, including the following:

Viking 1

Launched: Aug 20, 1975

Landed on Mars: Jul 20, 1976

Mission Ended: Nov 11, 1982

Viking 2

Launched: Sep 9, 1975

Landed on Mars: Sep 2, 1976

Mission Ended: Apr 12, 1980

Mars Global Surveyor (MGS)

Launched: Nov 7, 1996

Arrived in Mars Orbit: Sep 11, 1997

Mission Ended: Jan 28, 2007

Mars Express Orbiter

Unlike other spacecraft on this list which were launched by NASA, this craft was launched by the European Space Agency (ESA). *Mars Express* also deployed the *Beagle 2* lander, which failed to communicate with Earth upon landing.

Launched: Jun 2, 2003

Arrived in Mars Orbit: Dec 25, 2003

Mission Ended: Ongoing, as of 2024

Mars Exploration Rover (MER)

Spirit

Launched: Jun 10, 2003

Landed on Mars: Jan 4, 2004

Mission Ended: May 25, 2011

Opportunity

Launched: Jul 7, 2003

Landed on Mars: Jan 25, 2004

Mission Ended: Feb 13, 2019

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)

Launched: Aug 12, 2005

Arrived in Mars Orbit: Mar 10, 2006

Mission Ended: Ongoing, as of 2024

Phoenix

Launched: Aug 4, 2007

Landed on Mars: May 25, 2008

Mission Ended: Nov 2, 2008

Mars Science Laboratory (MSL), containing the ***Curiosity*** rover

Launched: Nov 26, 2011

Landed on Mars: Aug 6, 2012

Mission Ended: Ongoing, as of 2024

Content and Arrangement

The collection contains 86 video files. Some of the videos have no visual content but are audio only. It is not clear if this was intended or if it was an error in the uploading process. Some videos have other issues, such as the title card not being consistent with the catalogued publication date, or a “part 1” video missing a “part 2.” Missing content may be available on Internet Archive or the NASA website.

The items are arranged by series (mission or spacecraft name), then by publication date, and finally by file if they are part of a sequential group of videos.

Series list:

- 1. Iceland geology compared to Mars**
- 2. Mars Express Orbiter**
- 3. Viking**
- 4. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, Viking, and Mars Exploration Rover**
- 5. Mars Global Surveyor (MGS)**
- 6. Mars Exploration Rover (MER)**
- 7. Mars Exploration Rover (MER) – Spirit**
- 8. Mars Exploration Rover (MER) – Opportunity**
- 9. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)**
- 10. Phoenix and Mars Science Laboratory (MSL)**

Series 10 deals with *MSL* only in the planning and testing phases, and most of the videos in which it is mentioned discuss it alongside *Phoenix*, which is why they are listed together.

Subject Terms

- Earth-Mars trajectories
- interplanetary flight
- Mars exploration
- Mars Express
- Mars Global Surveyor
- Mars landing
- Mars landing sites
- Mars missions
- Mars probes
- Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter
- Mars roving vehicles
- Mars surface
- Mars surface samples
- Phoenix Mars Lander
- Viking spacecraft

Related Materials

Internet Archive has a significant amount of content about NASA and missions to Mars. They can be found by searching: [subject:"What -- Mars"](#)

NASA also has multimedia content about Mars missions on their website at <https://science.nasa.gov/mars/resources/>

Contents

This list contains all the items in the collection, organized by series and publication date. Some items are grouped into files because they are sequentially connected (part 1, part 2, etc.).

1. Iceland geology compared to Mars

Jun 15, 2004 Mars on Earth II

2. Mars Express Orbiter

Jun 24, 2005 Mars Express Radar Ready to Work-Video File

3. Viking

Jun 22, 2006 Viking-Mars Trailblazer-30th Anniversary Super Spotlight Web Video

4. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, Viking, and Mars Exploration Rover

Dec 5, 2006 NASA's Mars Orbiter Photographs Rovers and Viking Landers- Video File

5. Mars Global Surveyor (MGS)

Dec 6, 2006 Mars Discoveries: Liquid Water & Impact Craters - Web Video

6. Mars Exploration Rover (MER)

Jan 16, 2002	MER Cruise Stage Spins Test Compilation: Part 1
Jul 1, 2002	Mars Exploration Rover MER 2003 Animation (with sound effects)
Sep 5, 2002	ATLO Lowering Rover onto Lander Base
May 20, 2003	MER Entry, Descent & Landing Testing Highlights
Aug 13, 2003	File: Launches: Stormy weather at KSC • Mars Exploration Rover Launches: Stormy weather at KSC -- Part 1 • Mars Exploration Rover Launches: Stormy weather at KSC -- Part 2
Aug 15, 2003	Mars Exploration Rover Launches- Tracker camera view
Jan 14, 2004	MER Egress Turn and Roll Compilation
Jan 14, 2004	Vice President Dick Cheney Visits JPL-Video File
May 15, 2004	The Mars Show
2007	As Martian Skies Brighten, Rovers Roll... Video File
Jan 2, 2007	NASA's Mars Team Teaches Old Rovers New Tricks to Kick Off Year 4 -VF
Jan 22, 2008	On Mars: A Mars Exploration Rover Update (Compilation)

7. Mars Exploration Rover (MER) - Spirit

Jun 10, 2003	File: Launch Activities at KSC • Mars Exploration Rover-A Launch Activities at KSC (HD): Part 1 • Mars Exploration Rover-A Launch Activities at KSC (HD): Part 2
Jan 8, 2004	Red rover Goes To Mars-Student Astronaut B-Roll Compilation
Jan 10, 2004	MER Spirit Stand Up Compilation
Jan 15, 2004	MER: Spirit: Roll Off Lander Sol 12
Feb 2, 2004	Spirit Sol 30 Operations - Brush attempt on Adirondack & IDD fault
Nov 5, 2006	Dr. Jim Garvin -- HD B-roll Compilation
Jan 4, 2007	3 Years on Mars: Spirit

8. Mars Exploration Rover (MER) - Opportunity

Jan 22, 2004	Hematite Animation of Meridiani
Jan 31, 2004	Opportunity Egress Practice in ISIL
Feb 5, 2004	Opportunity Sol 12 Operations - IDD stow & drive toward outcrop
Jan 24, 2007	3 Years on Mars: Opportunity
Jul 20, 2007	NASA's Mars Rover Braves Severe Dust Storm: ÷: Video File
Jul 23, 2007	Opportunity Rover Weathers the Storm -- Web Video

9. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)

Jul 18, 2005	NASA's New Mars Orbiter Will Sharpen Vision of Exploration Video File MRO
Sep 11, 2006	NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Reaches Planned Flight Path-VF MRO
Feb 12, 2007	NASA's Mars Orbiter Sees Effects of Ancient Underground Fluids -MRO VF
Sep 20, 2007	File: Insight into Water & Climate

- Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Insight into Water & Climate - VF MRO (16:08)
 - Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Insight into Water & Climate - VF MRO (22:18)
- Oct 2, 2007 Mars: A Feast for the Eyes -- Web video
- Oct 11, 2007 NASA's MRO Spies Future Mars Landing Site Candidates Video File
- no date **File: Highlight Compilation**
- Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Highlight Compilation: Part 1
 - Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Highlight Compilation: Part 2
 - Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Highlight Compilation: Part 3

10. Phoenix and Mars Science Laboratory (MSL)

- Aug 4, 2003 Phoenix Animations: 2008 Arrival at Mars & Instrument Tests
- Nov 22, 2004 Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) Instrument Selection - Video File
- Nov 1, 2006 SSV Phoenix Animation Collection
- 2007-2008 **File: The Challenges of Getting to Mars**
- The Challenges of Getting to Mars: 7 Minutes of Terror
 - Challenges of Getting to Mars: Transporting Phoenix Lander for Launch
 - The Challenges of Getting to Mars: Countdown to Launch
 - The Challenges of Getting to Mars: Cruising To Mars
 - The Challenges of Getting to Mars: Landing Day -- Nerves and Joy
- Jan 30, 2007 Phoenix Assembly & Testing B-roll Compilation: Part 1a
- Jun 21, 2007 **File: von Karman Lecture Series**
- von Karman Lecture Series -- Phoenix: Science & Weather Station on Mars: Part 1
 - von Karman Lecture Series -- Phoenix: Science & Weather Station on Mars: Part 2
- Jul 5, 2007 NASA Readies Mars Lander for August Launch to Icy Site - VF Phoenix
- Jul 9, 2007 Phoenix Mars Lander: Hunting for Habitats
- Jul 12, 2007 Searching for Life
- Jul 31, 2007 NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander Stands Ready to Fly -- Video File
- Aug 3, 2007 **File: Prelaunch, Gantry roll and Launch Shots**
- Mars Phoenix Prelaunch, Gantry roll and Launch Shots
 - Mars Phoenix Prelaunch, Gantry roll and Launch Shots: Part 1
 - Mars Phoenix Prelaunch, Gantry roll and Launch Shots: Part 2
 - Mars Phoenix Prelaunch, Gantry roll and Launch Shots: Part 3
- Aug 4, 2007 Phoenix Post-Launch Briefing: Part 1
- Aug 27, 2007 **File: Media Reel**
- Phoenix Mars Lander Media Reel: Part 1
 - Phoenix Mars Lander Media Reel: Part 2
- Oct 16, 2007 Phoenix Radar Descent Testing Compilation: Part 1
- Jan-May 2008 **File: Operational Readiness Test**

	- Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 6 Compilation - Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 7 Compilation: Part 1 - Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 7 Compilation: Part 2 - Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 8 Compilation - Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 9 Compilation - Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 10 Compilation: Part 1 - Phoenix Mars Lander Operational Readiness Test 10 Compilation: Part 2
Mar 21, 2008	File: Launch Operations Compilation - Phoenix Mars Lander Launch Operations Compilation: Part 1 - Phoenix Mars Lander Launch Operations Compilation: Part 2
Mar 21, 2008	Phoenix Mars Lander Parachute Testing Compilation
Apr 22, 2008	Phoenix Mars Lander: Seven Minutes of Terror-Trailer
Apr 30, 2008	Phoenix Animation with Sound Effects (HD) - Includes Launch
May 13, 2008	MSL Mars Science Laboratory Animation with Sound Effects
May 22, 2008	Phoenix L-3 Press Briefing
May 25, 2008	File: Entry, Descent & Landing - Phoenix Mars Lander Entry, Descent & Landing HD Compilation: Part 1 - Phoenix Mars Lander Entry, Descent & Landing HD Compilation: Part 2 - Phoenix Mars Lander Entry, Descent & Landing HD Compilation: Part 3
May 25, 2008	Nerves and Joy-Phoenix Landing Night Recap
May 26, 2008	File: Surface Operations Compilations - Phoenix Mars Lander Sol 1 Surface Operations Compilation - Phoenix Mars Lander Sol 3 Surface Operations Compilation
Jul 5, 2008	Mars Phoenix Animation with Sound Effects