

Future Marstronauts start here

Astronauts on Mars may still seem far away, but just a few years from now Mars could have its first human outpost. Who will be the next Buzz Aldrin? Whoever it will be, chances are that he started his career as a model rocketeer who did not only build ready-to-fly kits but his own creative rocket designs. Now there's a tool out there that helps these future marstronauts to understand the physics behind rocketry and supports them in building their own cool rocket designs: SpaceCAD.

SpaceCAD for Microsoft Windows gives customers the freedom to design a fully functional model rocket in minutes. Its highly intuitive user interface provides instant results: watch the rocket in 2D and realistic 3D, analyze the stability to make sure that the rocket flies straight up in the air and predict the flight to find out how high it will go.

"If we want our children to go to Mars" says Andreas Firnau of SpaceCAD.com, "we need to spark their imagination - through model rocketry and by giving them a chance to build their own rocket designs".

SpaceCAD's library of rocket elements and rocket engines allows building a rocket from parts that can be readily ordered from rocket resellers. Additionally, the design can be exported as an Internet (HTML) file to publish it on the personal homepage or the school's intranet. The complete manual helps customers get started very quickly. If there are still questions, free support is available through the Internet homepage.

Plus, SpaceCAD prints cut-out patterns for transitions and fins to turn the rocket design into a real, flyable rocket. Also, SpaceCAD supports building a parachute that guarantees a safe landing so the rocket can be flown over and over again. Additionally, SpaceCAD prints a two-paged rocket data sheet that contains all the information about the design.

SpaceCAD is available through many rocketry resellers, Modern School Supplies and iSupportLearning.com. A free download is available from www.SpaceCAD.com. There's also a large SpaceCAD rocket design library that features pictures and rocket designs from all over the world. Unit price for SpaceCAD is US\$ 59.90, site licenses are available as well - prices start at US\$59.90 plus \$10 for every additional seat.

About SpaceCAD (<http://www.spacecad.com>)

SpaceCAD is the fastest growing model rocket software for model rocketeers wanting to design and build their own model rockets on the PC who are dissatisfied with difficult software that requires hours of learning. SpaceCAD is a very intuitive model rocket software that provides basic features like stability and flight prediction in one seamless package. Unlike other model rocket software, SpaceCAD also focuses on supporting the actual building of model rockets by providing extensive pattern printout options.

SpaceCAD calculates the stability of model rockets by automatically determining the center of gravity and the center of pressure of model rockets, as well as do a flight prediction. SpaceCAD supports model rockets with multiple stages. It gives recommendations on parachute size and best delay times for self- built model rockets. One highlight is the ability to automatically check for updated versions online - without sending personal information.