

MOLD-A-RAMA machine made in 1964 by Mold-A-Rama, Inc. for New York World's Fair, and Seattle World's Fair in 1962, is restored to its original glory to reissue souvenirs last seen half a century ago. MOLD-A-RAMA machine made in 1964 by Mold-A-Rama, Inc. for New York World's Fair, and Seattle World's Fair in 1962, is restored to its original glory to reissue souvenirs last seen half a century ago.

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(MOLDVILLE is not affiliated with **Mold-A-Rama, Inc.** of Chicago, IL nor with the 1960s company **Mold-A-Rama, Inc.** of Los Angeles, original operator of the "Disneyland Toy Factory.")

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Club-A-Rama v2.0

WEEK 12

GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE

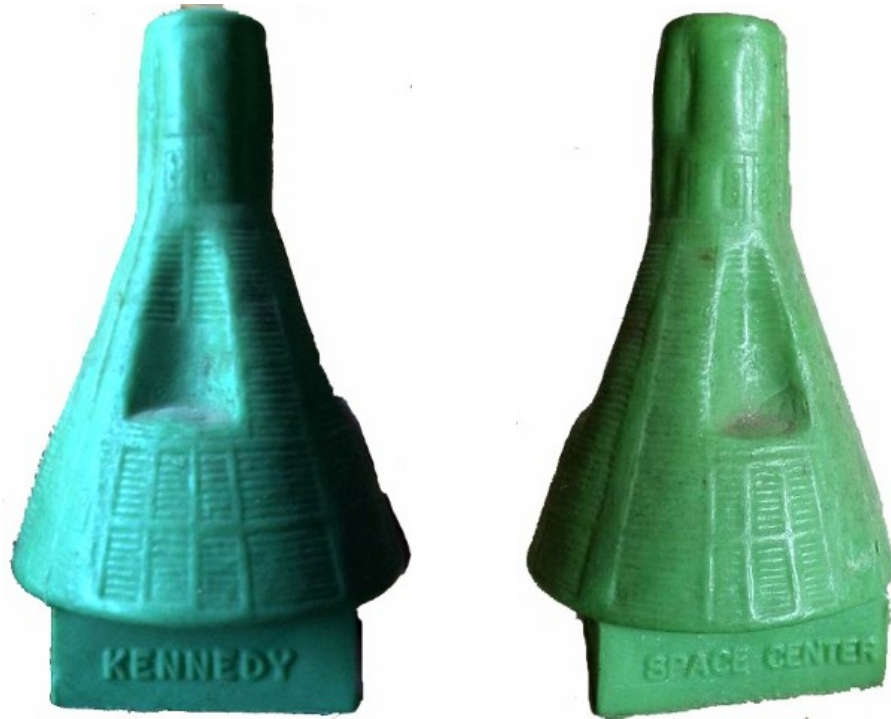
1966

Kennedy Space Center, Florida



Project GEMINI was conducted between projects MERCURY and APOLLO, with flights occurring in 1965 and 1966. The **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** sat atop a TITAN II rocket - originally developed as an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), but was modified as a launcher for the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE**. While the earlier MERCURY SPACE CAPSULE (see Club-A-Rama v1.0, week 25) seated a single astronaut, the **GEMINI SPACE**

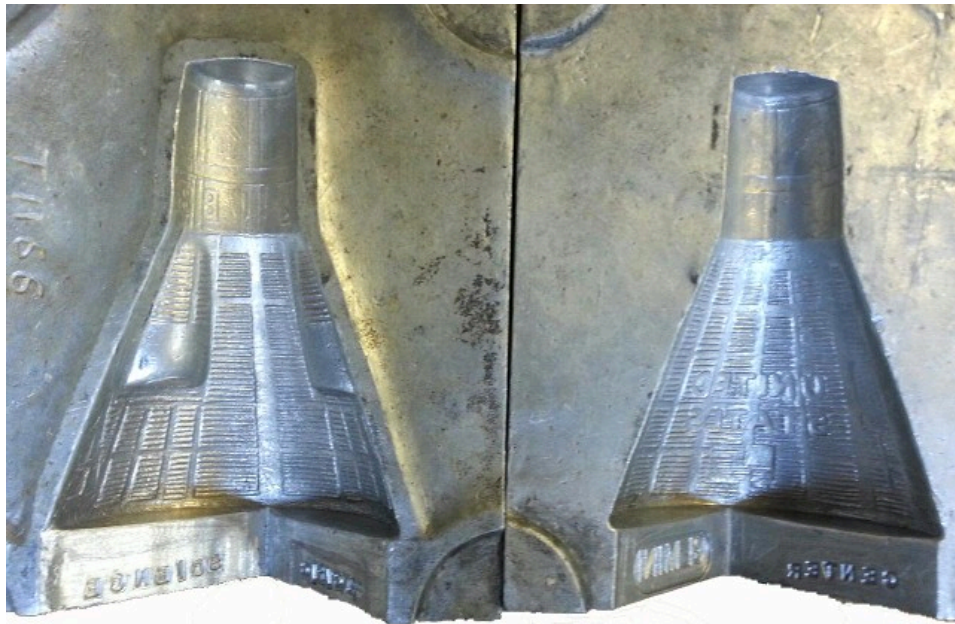
CAPSULE was configured to hold two astronauts. The GEMINI 2 spacecraft was re-flown on an Air Force Titan-IIIC rocket in 1966 (which date corresponds to the creation of the moldset for the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE**.) Experience gained during project GEMINI proved critical to the success of the APOLLO lunar landing program of 1967-1972.



This is a vintage **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** engraved "KENNEDY SPACE CENTER" across two sides of the base, and "GEMINI" across a third side.



Operation of MOLD-A-RAMA machines continued at the JOHN F KENNEDY SPACE CENTER under operation by MOLD-A-MATIC (Eldin Irwin's company). This is an original plexi backglass used in the MOLD-A-RAMA machines by MOLD-A-MATIC in the 1970s-80s. (MOLDVILLE.com owns this original plexi backglass.)



There is one and only one **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** moldset in existence, and it is numbered 1166, which places it in 1966. The original engraving was to "KENNEDY SPACE CENTER", so it is believed that the KENNEDY SPACE CENTER was the initial location for operation of the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** moldset. This being the one-and-only moldset of the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE**, the "KENNEDY SPACE CENTER" engraving was removed from this very moldset by the operator for placement in the PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER around 2008.



There was (and still is) a **ROCKET PARK** behind the **HALL OF SCIENCE** at the site of the 1964-65 New York World's Fair that includes a **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** atop a Titan II rocket, and I have been tempted to believe that this might be the original use of the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** moldset (given the many, many other moldsets that originated at the New York World's Fair.) But my numbering system, which has guided me accurately so far, dates the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** moldset to 1966, which would be after the fair ended. I wanted to mention it on the chance that someone out there in the Internetland has information that the **GEMINI SPACE CAPSULE** was in fact vended at the 1964-65 New York World's Fair. My best guess is that it was not - that it was first vended at the KENNEDY SPACE CENTER in Florida in 1966.

Disclaimers: The color and/or exact condition of the MOLD you get in the CLUB-A-RAMA may or may not be as shown. Not for children under 3.

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