

Juno - 1 RS-29 (UE) Launch Vehicle



Arguably one of the most significant space launch vehicles in the history of the U.S. space program, the Juno I was a modified Redstone MRBM designed specifically to carry lightweight payloads into low-Earth orbit.

Although the Juno I was nearly identical to the Jupiter C research rocket from which it was adapted, the names Juno I and Jupiter C should not be interchanged, as is frequently the case.

Jupiter C had concluded its role in Jupiter component testing prior to the vehicle's modification to satellite launcher. As a result, Jupiter C was officially renamed Juno at the request of Dr. William Pickering, head of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, on November 18, 1957. In addition to distinguishing the rocket as a satellite launcher, the name Juno also served to divert attention away from the Jupiter IRBM program for which the Jupiter C was originally designed.

A Juno I bearing the letters "UE" successfully launched Explorer I, the first U.S. satellite. The Juno I was launched from Cape Canaveral Launch Pad 26A at 10:48 p.m. EST on January 31, 1958.

Following the successful launch of Explorer 1, Juno I made five more launches before being retired in favor of Juno II. Although Juno I's launch of the Explorer 1 satellite was a huge success for the U.S. space program, only two of its remaining five flights were successful, Explorer 3 and Explorer 4, giving the Juno I vehicle a mission total success ratio of 50%. The Juno I vehicle was replaced by the Juno II in 1959.

Classification: Space Launch Vehicle

Length: 68 feet, 7 inches

Diameter: 5 feet, 10 inches

Finspan: 13 feet

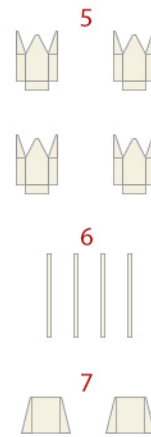
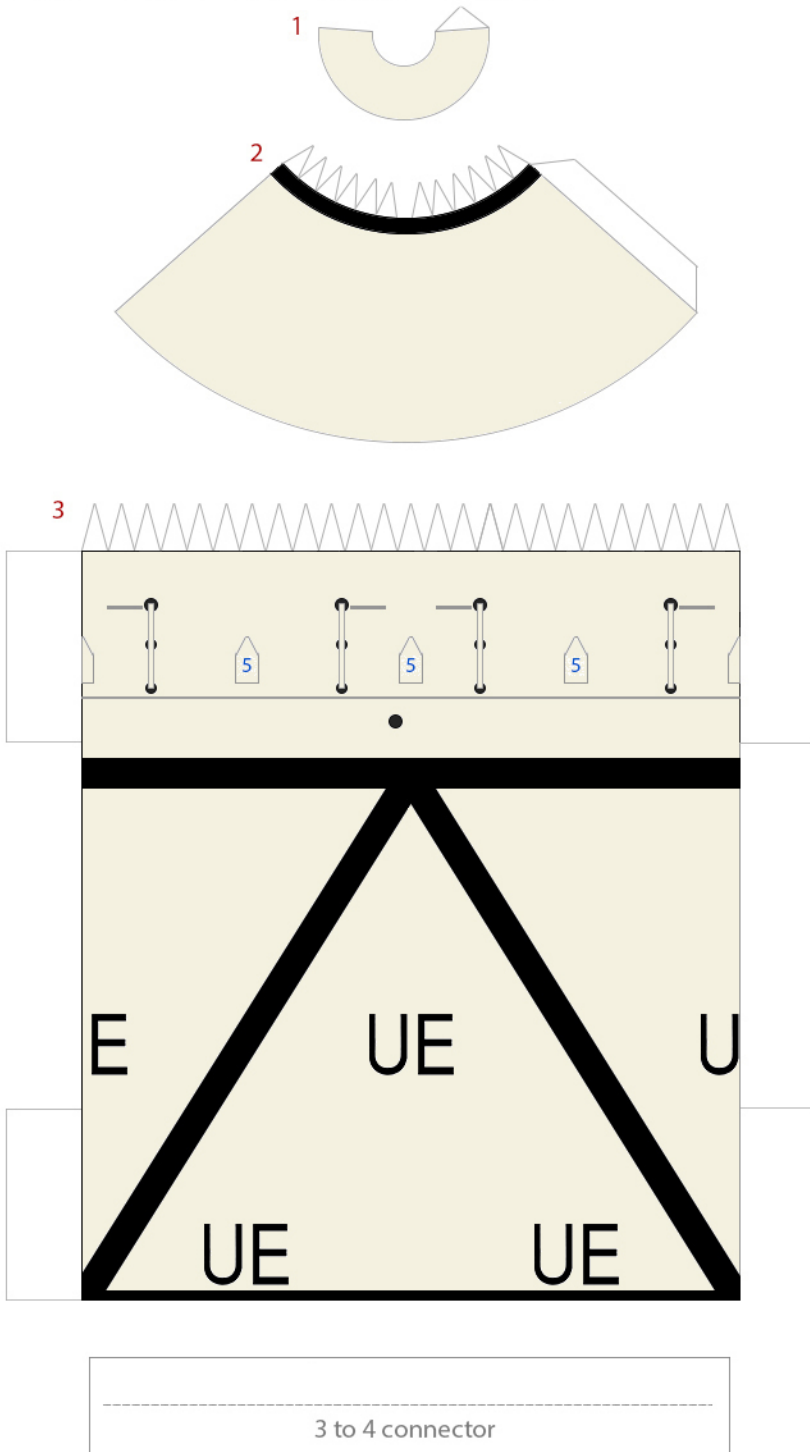
Date of First Cape Canaveral Launch: January 31, 1958

Date of Final Cape Canaveral Launch: October 22, 1958

Number of Cape Canaveral Launches: 6

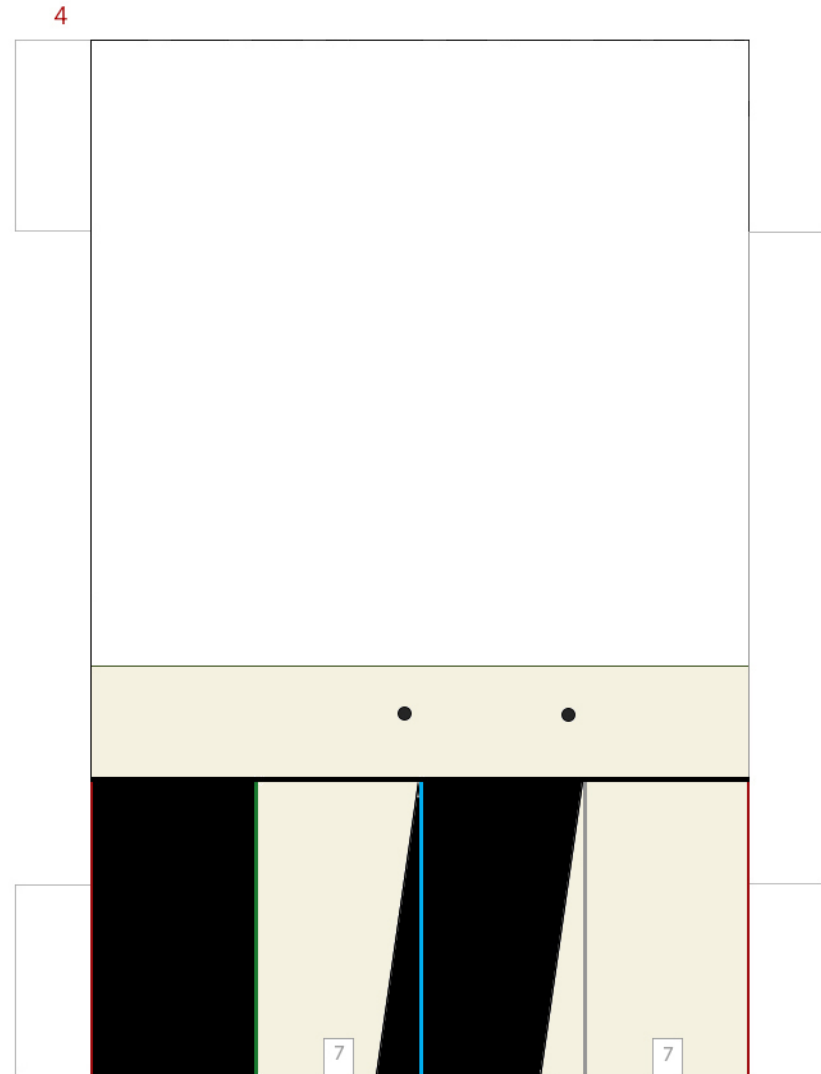


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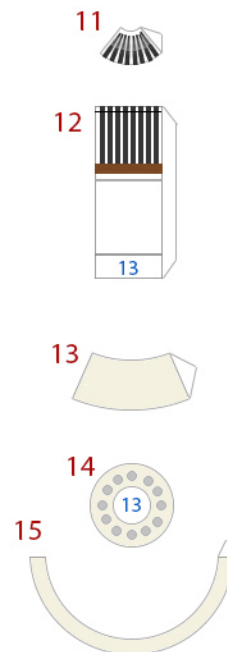
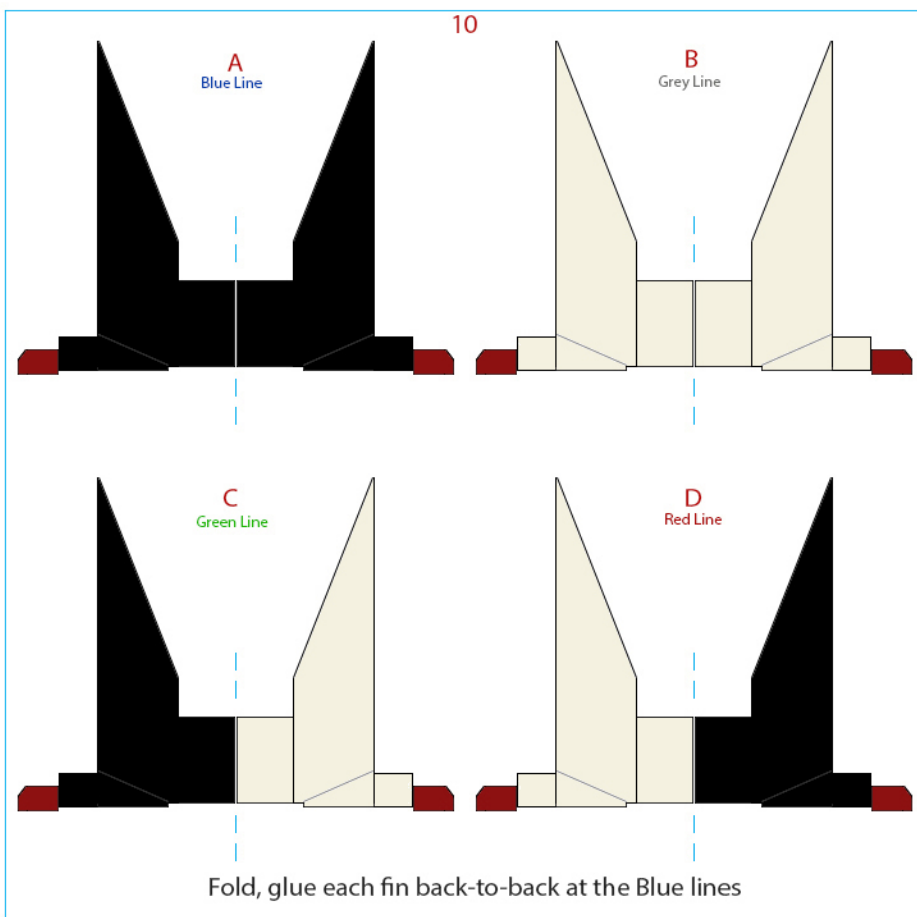


Inside former
glue to cardstock
Glue against the
connector at bottom
of 3

Inside former
glue to cardstock
Glue to inside
bottom of 4



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Glue to cardstock

