



Image from: [One small step for a man. Neil Armstrong stepped... in \*Atlas of the Universe\*](#)

Summary Article: **Armstrong, Neil Alden**

From *The Columbia Encyclopedia*

1930–2012, American astronaut, b. Wapakoneta, Ohio, grad. Purdue Univ. (B.S., 1955), Univ. of Southern California (M.S., 1970). A U.S. Navy fighter pilot during the Korean War, Armstrong became a test pilot for what was then the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics in 1955. In 1962, already a veteran of the X-15 rocket plane, Armstrong became a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut and served as command pilot of the Gemini 8 mission. As commander of Apollo 11 (July 16–24, 1969), he was the first person (July 20 EDST) to set foot on the moon, saying: “That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind” (the “a” was apparently lost in transmission due to static). After serving (1970–71) as an associate NASA administrator for aeronautics, Armstrong taught aeronautical engineering at the Univ. of Cincinnati from 1971 to 1979. In 1985, President Reagan appointed him to the National Commission on Space and in 1986 named him vice chairman of the panel that investigated the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger.

See his *First on the Moon* (1970), written with G. Farmer and D. Hamblin; biography by J. R. Hansen (2005).

**APA**

Chicago

Harvard

**MLA**

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Armstrong, Neil Alden. (2018). In P. Lagasse, & Columbia University, *The Columbia encyclopedia* (8th ed.). New York, NY: Columbia University Press. Retrieved from [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/armstrong\\_neil\\_alden\\_1930](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/armstrong_neil_alden_1930)

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## Chicago

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## Harvard

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## MLA

"Armstrong, Neil Alden." *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University, Columbia University Press, 8th edition, 2018. *Credo Reference*, [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/armstrong\\_neil\\_alden\\_1930](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/armstrong_neil_alden_1930). Accessed 20 Oct. 2019.