

A photograph of an astronaut inside a SpaceX Dragon capsule, orbiting Earth. The Earth's blue and white clouds are visible in the background. The capsule is red and white. The astronaut is wearing a white suit and a white helmet.

Astronauts to fly reused
SpaceX rocket, capsule for
1st time

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- Spaceflight has traditionally been a government-led activity — and it's never been cheap

• **Use, recycle, repeat:** Both the Dragon capsule and Falcon rocket for this mission have soared once before. The capsule launched the first SpaceX crew last May, while the rocket hoisted the second set of astronauts, who are still at the space station.



- SpaceX and NASA are assessing how many times a Falcon can safely launch astronauts. For satellites, Falcons can be used for 10 flights. The company uses the same kind of rocket and similar capsules for station supply runs, and recycles those, too.



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