

NASA is reviewing five space habitat mockups from different companies, including Bigelow Aerospace, to develop the ideal Gateway, a lunar orbit research outpost. These habitats will house and transfer astronauts to the moon's surface, with inflatable structures like Bigelow's B330 designed to shield against radiation and debris. The lunar habitat program, part of NASA's Artemis mission, aims to land astronauts on the moon by 2024 and will cost over a billion dollars through 2028. NASA is using insights from these mockups to inform a blueprint due soon, focusing on features like exercise equipment, kitchen space, and noise-cancelling sleep stations.