

NASA counts down toward Saturday shuttle launch

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(AP) -- NASA is counting down toward the weekend launch of space shuttle Endeavour.

The countdown clocks began ticking Wednesday morning. Endeavour is slated to blast off Saturday on a space station construction mission. Forecasters put the odds of good launch weather at 90 percent.

The flight comes less than three weeks after NASA's last [shuttle](#) trip involving the successful overhaul of the Hubble Space Telescope. The highlight of this 16-day mission will be the completion of a huge Japanese lab.

It will mark the first time 13 people are together in space at the same time. Six people now live at the space station; they will be visited by seven shuttle astronauts.

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