

Google doodle pays tribute to Gagarin mission

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The Google logo. Google paid tribute to Russia's Yuri Gagarin on Tuesday, replacing the logo on its homepage with an image of the first man in space and a rocket that a visitor can launch with a cursor.

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Google replaced the first 'O' in the company's name with a picture of Gagarin in his helmet and substituted a globe for the second 'O' in its name.

A rocket perched on the globe takes off in a puff of smoke and soars into the sky when a visitor to the page places the cursor on the [Google](#) logo.

Gagarin blasted off in his Vostok rocket on April 12, 1961 from the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan.

The Mountain View, California-based Google frequently changes the colorful logo on its famously spartan home page to mark anniversaries or significant events or pay tribute to artists, scientists, statesmen and others.

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