

It's my intention that this idea should be a part of the public domain and should never be patented.

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This document is approximately 483 words long.

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The idea came to me as a "wake-up" dream. By that, I mean that I started dreaming shortly before I woke up and the dream continued through the process of waking up, so that it didn't end while I was asleep. The idea embodied in the dream remained in my mind so that I woke up with the idea still in my mind, essentially unchanged from its form in the dream. That's fairly common for me. Several of my ideas have come to me that way.

Actually, in my dream the external shape of the rocket was more like a spindle than a cylinder. By that, I mean that it was thicker in the middle and tapered smoothly toward both ends. I made it look like a cylinder in my sketch because it was easier to draw it that way. Also, maybe that's a better shape for rocket propulsion.

### Operating Procedure:

1. The passenger rides in the Passenger Life Support Module during take-off.
2. After the passenger is in orbit, he does whatever it was that he went into orbit to do.
3. The passenger must unclip both the Passenger Life Support Module and the Control Module and transfer them into the inside of the Reentry Vehicle prior to reentry. It would be a good idea if the loose parts were connected to the Reentry Vehicle by cords. It would be a shame if one of them floated away while the passenger was fumbling with the other one.
4. The passenger climbs into the Reentry Vehicle, feet first, seals a hatch where the rocket exhaust was, pushes the Reentry Button, grits his teeth, clenches his fists, holds his breath, squints his eyes, and hangs on tight.

### A Few Stray Suggestions:

The solid fuel should be shaped so that the rocket will travel at relatively low speed through the lower atmosphere and attain orbital velocity only after it's above most of the air. Also, since the passenger is an ordinary guy and, since he's in a vertical position, acceleration should be low for the entire trajectory.

Some sort of small retro-rocket must be incorporated into the design, to drop the Reentry Vehicle back into the atmosphere, after the passenger pushes the button. I'd suggest an interlock so that it can't be accidentally fired until the passenger is safely secured into the Reentry Vehicle.

Since the thing is intended to be used by ordinary folks, all flight control should be pre-programmed on the ground and should be automatic during operation.

NASA stands for Need A Simpler Approach.

## Personal Rocket

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The cheapest and simplest way  
to put a man into orbit.

1. Passenger Life Support Module
2. Solid Fuel Rocket and Re-Entry Vehicle
3. Control Module, Counterbalance, and Re-Entry Parachute

