

## Re: Dummies question – gap filler

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech–archive.net/Archive/sci.space.shuttle/2005–08/msg01873.html>

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- *From:* "Reunite Gondwanaland (Mary Shafer)" <[reunite.gondwana@xxxxxxxx](mailto:reunite.gondwana@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 10 Aug 2005 23:45:53 –0700
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On Thu, 11 Aug 2005 02:22:09 GMT, "Greg D. Moore \(\Strider\)"  
<[mooregr\\_deleteth1s@xxxxxxxx](mailto:mooregr_deleteth1s@xxxxxxxx)> wrote:

>  
> "Reunite Gondwanaland (Mary Shafer)" <[reunite.gondwana@xxxxxxxx](mailto:reunite.gondwana@xxxxxxxx)> wrote in  
> message [news:59udf1t6sk7a9o3bb738ir5tn5or9lnbal@xxxxxxxx](mailto:news:59udf1t6sk7a9o3bb738ir5tn5or9lnbal@xxxxxxxx)  
>  
>> This is part of the reason the tiles are laid diagonally, not  
>> straight. The flow always crosses the gap, rather than running along  
>> it. This minimizes local heating at larger–than–normal gaps.  
>  
> Hmm, never heard taht.

I'm shocked. It's in the paper I wrote about hypersonic  
aerothermodynamic, after all.

> Any reason then they used linear edges on the doors and stuff? You'd think  
> they'd want to use some sort of checkered edge.

You mean like the gear doors on the F–117 Stealth Fighters? With  
zig–zaggy edges?

The gear doors on the Orbiter are fairly short and pretty rough, so  
flow entrainment isn't as much of a problem as it would have been for  
the entire belly. They might have thought that zig–zag gear doors  
were too complicated to build and maintain, too.

Mary

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Mary Shafer Retired aerospace research engineer  
We didn't just do weird stuff at Dryden, we wrote reports about it.  
[reunite.gondwana@xxxxxxxx](mailto:reunite.gondwana@xxxxxxxx) or [miliff@xxxxxxxx](mailto:miliff@xxxxxxxx)

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- *Follow–Ups:*
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Re: Dummies question – gap filler

◇ *From:* Greg D. Moore \((Strider\)

• *References:*

- ◆ *Dummies question – gap filler*  
◇ *From:* John Smith
- ◆ *Re: Dummies question – gap filler*  
◇ *From:* John A. Weeks III
- ◆ *Re: Dummies question – gap filler*  
◇ *From:* John Smith
- ◆ *Re: Dummies question – gap filler*  
◇ *From:* Herb Schaltegger
- ◆ *Re: Dummies question – gap filler*  
◇ *From:* Reunite Gondwanaland (Mary Shafer)
- ◆ *Re: Dummies question – gap filler*  
◇ *From:* Greg D. Moore \((Strider\)

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