

# Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.shuttle/2005-10/msg00423.html>

---

- *From:* "tomcat" <[jlavine@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:jlavine@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 24 Oct 2005 02:46:05 -0700
- 

Fred J. McCall wrote:

- > :One of the nice things about a hypersonic plane is that winds have
- > :little affect on it. A mach 15 airflow is so much greater than a
- > :measly 200 knot wind that it is scarcely felt.
- >
- > There is a big difference between 'rigid airship' and 'hypersonic
- > plane'. Pick one.
- >
- > :Not to mention the 5 million pounds of thrust an 11 SSME engine
- > :spaceplane would have.
- >
- > And I'm sure the magic would be a big helper, too.
- >
- > :Military jet pilots rarely feel the weather in the newer fighter
- > :aircraft. The one exception is when they are flying slow to land or
- > :takeoff.
- >
- > Know a lot of military jet pilots, do you? I do and they worry a LOT
- > about winds aloft.

Nothing magical about a SSME. Rocketdyne makes them. They work. They produce 450,000 pounds of thrust each at sea level, 500,000 pounds of thrust each in Space.

They call me "pedal to the metal" for a reason. I don't slow down for thunderheads, or try to go around them. Sometimes I'm referred to as the "what me worry? guy". I don't worry much.

A good spaceplane would be a combination of extremely light materials, like carbon nanotube fabric, and . . . vacuum. It just might float.

tomcat

.

---

Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets

- **Follow-Ups:**
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: Fred J . McCall
  
- **References:**
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: Brad Guth
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: tomcat
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: Brad Guth
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: tomcat
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: Glenn Shaw
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: tomcat
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: Fred J . McCall
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: tomcat
  - ◆ **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
    - ◇ From: Fred J . McCall
  
- Prev by Date: **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
- Next by Date: **Re: CEV a Step Backwards**
- Previous by thread: **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
- Next by thread: **Re: How Rockets Differ From Jets**
- Index(es):
  - ◆ **Date**
  - ◆ **Thread**