

FEBRUARY 21, 2026

STARLINK MISSION

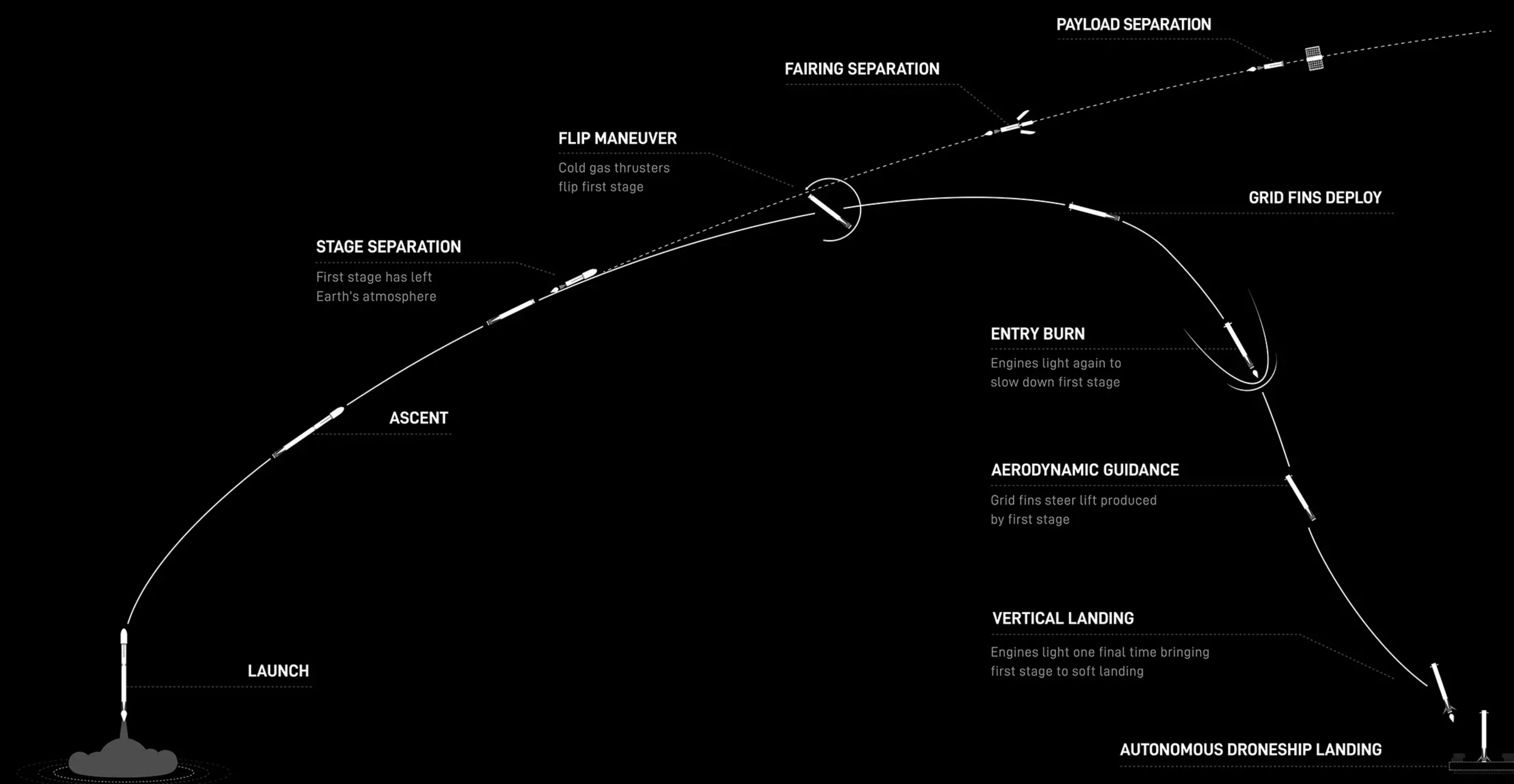
WATCH →

On Saturday, February 21 at 10:47 p.m. ET, Falcon 9 launched 28 Starlink satellites to low-Earth orbit from Space Launch Complex 40 (SLC-40) at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

This was the 33rd flight for the first stage booster supporting this mission, which previously launched CRS-22, Crew-3, Turksat 5B, Crew-4, CRS-25, Eutelsat HOTBIRO 13G, SES O3B mPOWER-A, PSN SATRIA, TelkomSat Merah Putih 2, Galileo L13, Koreasat-6A, and now 21 Starlink missions. Following stage separation, the first stage landed on the A Shortfall of Gravitas droneship, which was stationed in the Atlantic Ocean.

COUNTDOWN

HR:MIN:SEC	EVENT
00:38:00	SPACE LAUNCH DIRECTOR VERIFIES GO FOR PROPELLANT LOAD
00:35:00	RP-1 (ROCKET GRADE KEROSENE) LOADING BEGINS
00:35:00	1ST STAGE LOX (LIQUID OXYGEN) LOADING BEGINS
00:16:00	2ND STAGE LOX LOADING BEGINS
00:07:00	FALCON 9 BEGINS ENGINE CHILL PRIOR TO LAUNCH
00:01:00	COMMAND FLIGHT COMPUTER TO BEGIN FINAL PRELAUNCH CHECKS
00:01:00	PROPELLANT TANK PRESSURIZATION TO FLIGHT PRESSURE BEGINS
00:00:45	SPACE LAUNCH DIRECTOR VERIFIES GO FOR LAUNCH
00:00:03	ENGINE CONTROLLER COMMANDS ENGINE IGNITION SEQUENCE TO START
00:00:00	FALCON 9 LIFTOFF



LAUNCH, LANDING, AND DEPLOYMENT

All Times Approximate

HR:MIN:SEC	EVENT
00:01:12	MAX Q (MOMENT OF PEAK MECHANICAL STRESS ON THE ROCKET)
00:02:24	1ST STAGE MAIN ENGINE CUTOFF (MECO)
00:02:28	1ST AND 2ND STAGES SEPARATE
00:02:36	2ND STAGE ENGINE STARTS (SES-1)
00:02:57	FAIRING SEPARATION
00:06:08	1ST STAGE ENTRY BURN BEGINS
00:06:34	1ST STAGE ENTRY BURN ENDS
00:07:55	1ST STAGE LANDING BURN BEGINS
00:08:20	1ST STAGE LANDING
00:08:40	2ND STAGE ENGINE CUTOFF (SECO-1)
00:53:52	2ND STAGE ENGINE STARTS (SES-2)
00:53:54	2ND STAGE ENGINE CUTOFF (SECO-2)
01:04:59	STARLINK SATELLITES DEPLOY

