

Mariner 1 was one of the first robot spacecrafts. It was destroyed by NASA when its rocket went off course.

"The Mariner 2 was the first robot spacecraft to successfully complete a mission. It was launched on August 27, 1962 and traveled for 109 days before passing within 22,000 miles of the planet Venus." As Mariner 2 flew by Venus, its sensors measured the temperature at 800F. This was the first indication of how hot Venus really is. After the Mariner 2, people began to realize how effective robot spacecrafts can be.

Mariner 3 had problems with its communication systems, and its outer surface was defective.