



TECHNICAL NOTES:

Engines: Rolls-Royce Avon of
10,000 lbs. thrust

Maximum speed: 350 mph

Service ceiling: 20,000 feet

HISTORY & HERITAGE

R A C E S E R I E S

The X-13 was built to prove the concept that a jet could take off vertically, transition to horizontal flight, and land vertically.

The first X-13 flew conventionally in 1955 to test its aerodynamics, then performed vertical hover tests in 1956 using a tail-sitting rig.

The second X-13 made history in 1957 with the first full-cycle flight at Edwards AFB, launching and landing vertically from a mobile trailer. It also flew demonstration missions near Washington, D.C.

Though the concept worked, limited potential and funding ended the program in 1958. The X-13 arrived at the museum in 1959.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!

