

Kirobo, Japan's talkative robot astronaut

A diminutive robot designed to chat to humans now has a Japanese astronaut to keep it company aboard the International Space Station



In space
Designed to navigate while floating in zero gravity

Aug 10:
Kirobo launched to ISS

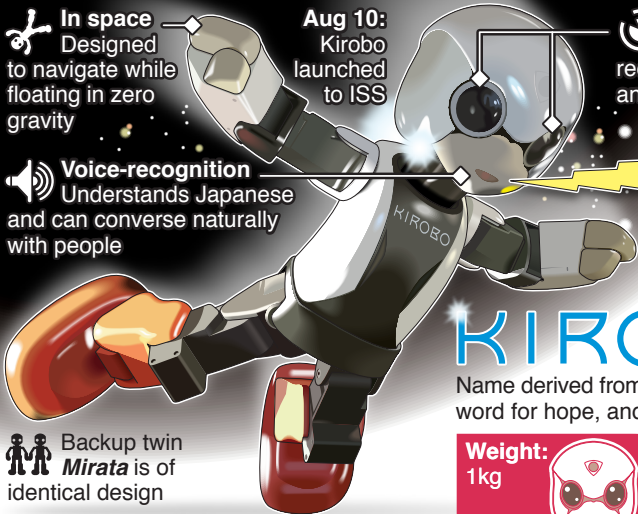


Vision
Cameras to recognise faces and emotions



Voice-recognition
Understands Japanese and can converse naturally with people

"That's one small step for me, but a giant leap for robotkind,"



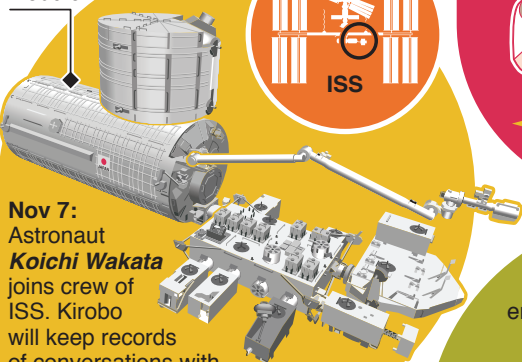
KIROBO

Name derived from **kibo**, Japanese word for hope, and **robot**



Backup twin
Mirata is of identical design

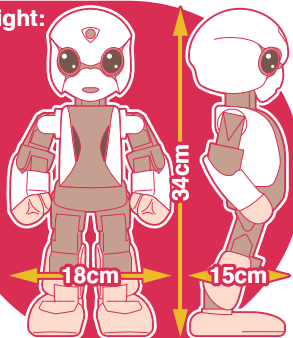
Kirobo stationed on **Kibo** module



Nov 7:
Astronaut **Koichi Wakata**

joins crew of ISS. Kirobo will keep records of conversations with him to see how well robots and humans interact

Weight:
1kg



Kibo Robot Project:

Ultimate goal is to provide emotional support for people isolated over long periods. Created by advertising firm Dentsu, University of Tokyo, Robo Garage and Toyota