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Is the sun classified as a planet or a star?

The sun is an ordinary star, one of about 100 billion in our galaxy, the Milky Way. The sun has extremely important influences on our planet: It drives weather, ocean currents, seasons, and climate, and makes plant life possible through photosynthesis. Without the sun's heat and light, life on Earth would not exist.

Is there a planet without a sun?

It is the first really good evidence that planets without suns actually exist. It's also exciting because this planet is very young. It could help scientists figure out what planets like Jupiter were like when they first formed. But there is something even more exciting about this planet.



The Sun doesn't have a solid surface like Earth and the other rocky planets and moons. The part of the Sun commonly called its surface is the photosphere. The word photosphere means "light sphere" ??? which is apt because this is the layer that emits the most visible light. It's what we see from Earth with our eyes.



ized that the Sun was the celestial object around which all the planets ??? including Earth ??? orbit, and that the Moon is not a planet, but a satellite (moon) of Earth. Uranus was added as a planet in 1781 and Neptune was discovered in 1846. The asteroid Ceres was discovered between Mars and Jupiter in 1801, and was at first classified as a



Our solar system is made up of a star???the Sun???eight planets, 146 moons, a bunch of comets, asteroids and space rocks, ice, and several dwarf planets, such as Pluto. The eight planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Mercury is closest to the Sun. Neptune is the farthest.



Pluto, the Nearest Dwarf Planet Pluto is a small, icy object about 2,302 kilometers (1,430 miles) across that orbits the sun beyond Neptune. Discovered in 1930, it was long considered the ninth planet in our solar system. But in 2006, the International Astronomical Union revised its definition of a planet.



The sun is a star emitting energy, light and heat. A planet is a big rock normally orbiting a star. A star is a big ball of gas (hydrogen mainly) undergoing the process of nuclear Fusion and, in doing so, producing energy. A planet is a ball of inert material (silica for example) that receives light and heat from a star.



Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun and is the smallest of the eight planets being only slightly larger than our moon. Mercury's surface temperatures vary in extremes reaching day temperatures as high as 800°F (430°C) and dipping as low as -290°F (-180°C), lacking the atmosphere to hold the heat at night.



Sun is the name we use for the star at the center of our Solar System. It is the star we see rising in the East in the morning and the one that bathes our planet's surface with heat. So yes, the Sun is a star. However, not all stars are suns. Using the term sun to refer to any other star is incorrect. Sun is not a synonym for star.



For the sun to be a planet, it would have to orbit another sun. Although the sun is in an orbit, it moves around the center of mass of the Milky Way galaxy, not another star. The sun fits the definition of a star, because it is a giant ball of gases consisting of hydrogen and helium, with nuclear reactions going on inside.



"Planet" is a word used by the ancient Greeks to describe stars, visible to the naked eye, that moved in relation to the fixed, background stars. The word "planet" comes from the Greek word "planetes," which means "wanderer," and likely has more ancient origins. We'll never know when humans first noticed that some stars moved while most



Where did the Sun come from? The Sun formed 4.6 billion years ago from a gigantic collapsing cloud of gas and dust called the solar nebula. The leftover material from the Sun's formation ??? a mere 0.14% ??? evolved into the rest of the Solar System we know today: planets, moons, asteroids, comets, and all. How does the Sun work?



Neptune, the farthest planet from the Sun, is a gas giant that orbits the Sun at an average distance of about 2.8 billion miles (4.5 billion km). Its thick atmosphere is composed mainly of



? solar system to scale The eight planets of the solar system and Pluto, in a montage of images scaled to show the approximate sizes of the bodies relative to one another. Outward from the Sun, which is represented to scale by the yellow segment at the extreme left, are the four rocky terrestrial planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars), the four hydrogen-rich giant ???



The Sun is a huge ball of hot, churning, unpredictable supercharged gasses called plasma. Held together by gravity, the Sun produces the light and heat that make life on our planet possible. The light from our Sun is surprisingly steady considering that the Sun itself is always changing.





Our solar system includes the Sun, eight planets, five officially named dwarf planets, and hundreds of moons, and thousands of asteroids and comets. Our solar system is located in the Milky Way, a barred spiral galaxy with two major arms, and two minor arms. Our Sun is in a small, partial arm of the Milky Way called the Orion Arm, or Orion Spur



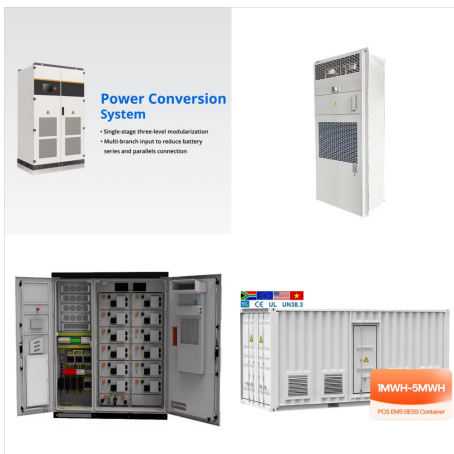
Like other stars, the Sun is a dense ball of gas that creates energy through nuclear fusion reactions in the core, creating helium atoms from hydrogen atoms. The Sun radiates different forms of energy, including ultraviolet, infrared, and light energy, out into space. Light and heat energy from the Sun warm our planet and make life possible.



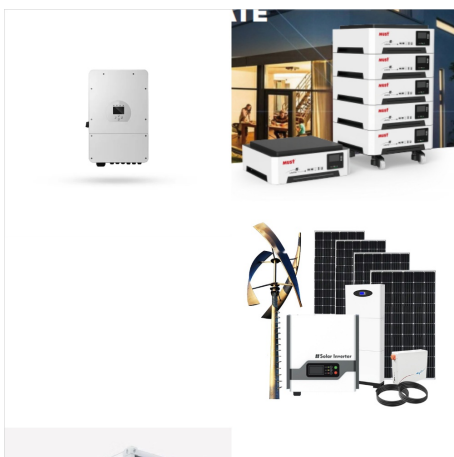
At the Sun's equator, a sidereal day is around 25 Earth days; near the poles, it is close to 35 Earth days. How Far Does the Sun Reach? The visible surface of the Sun is called the photosphere. This lies about 700,000 kilometers (430,000 miles) from the center of the Sun, which is roughly twice the distance from Earth to the Moon.



Our solar system consists of our star, the Sun, and everything bound to it by gravity ??? the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; dwarf planets such as ???



After much debate, it was decided that a planet should be defined as an object which (a) orbits the sun, and (b) is massive enough not only to coalesce itself into a nearly spherical shape, but also to gravitationally dominate its region of the solar system. A dwarf planet is an object which shares the characteristics of a planet but is not



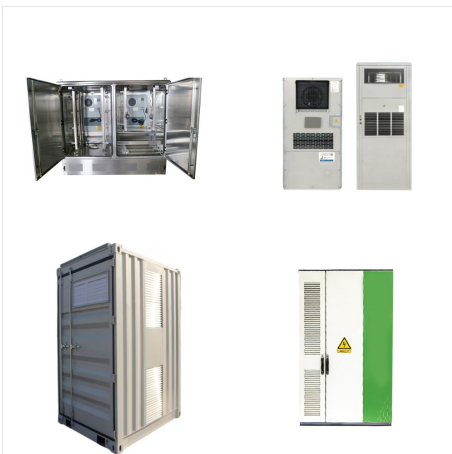
Learn how the definition of a planet has evolved over time and why Pluto is not considered a planet by most astronomers. Find out the criteria for being a planet, a dwarf planet, or a small ???



The Solar System [d] is the gravitationally bound system of the Sun and the objects that orbit it. [11] It formed about 4.6 billion years ago when a dense region of a molecular cloud collapsed, forming the Sun and a protoplanetary disc. The Sun is a typical star that maintains a balanced equilibrium by the fusion of hydrogen into helium at its core, releasing this energy from its ???



Introduction. The planetary system we call home is located in an outer spiral arm of the Milky Way galaxy. Our solar system consists of our star, the Sun, and everything bound to it by gravity ??? the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; dwarf planets such as Pluto; dozens of moons; and millions of asteroids, comets, and meteoroids.



Mercury is the closest planet to the sun and the smallest planet in the solar system ??? it is only a little larger than Earth's moon. Mercury zips around the sun in only 88 days and because it is





solar system to scale The eight planets of the solar system and Pluto, in a montage of images scaled to show the approximate sizes of the bodies relative to one another. Outward from the Sun, which is represented to scale by the yellow segment at the extreme left, are the four rocky terrestrial planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars), the four hydrogen-rich giant ???



The planets in our solar system didn't appear out of nowhere. Neither did the sun. They were all part of a big cloud of gas and dust. Gravity collected lots of material in the center to create the sun. The left over stuff swirled around the forming sun, colliding and collecting together.



? Any natural solar system object other than the Sun, a planet, a dwarf planet, or a moon is called a small body; these include asteroids, meteoroids, and comets. Most of the more than one million asteroids, or minor planets, orbit between Mars and Jupiter in a nearly flat ring called the asteroid belt.



The closest star to us is the Sun. What is a planet?  
A planet is a natural body that orbits around a star and dominates its orbit, displacing all similarly sized objects nearby. Planets are massive enough to have a spherical shape but not massive enough to cause nuclear fusion inside. They can consist of rock, like the Earth and Mars, or of gas