

SolarInnovate Energy Solutions

Solar System Features



Overview

Beyond the Sun, the Solar System consists of eight planets, five recognized dwarf planets, over a million known asteroids, 644 moons orbiting planets, dwarf planets, and asteroids, as well as 3,701 known comets. What is in the Solar System?

The solar system includes the Sun and everything that orbits it: planets, dwarf planets, moons, rings, asteroids, comets, and particles of dust. The solar system model is being updated by spacecraft like New Horizons. July 2025: What's up in the sky?

The solar system is located in one of the spiral arms of the Milky Way galaxy.

What are the characteristics of the Solar System?

The Solar System possesses several distinctive features that set it apart from other star systems and celestial structures in the universe. These characteristics include: Central Star: The Sun, a yellow dwarf star of spectral type G2V. Sun's Size: Approximately 1.4 million kilometers in diameter (109 times the diameter of Earth).

What is a small body in the Solar System?

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.

How many planets are in our Solar System?

So far, Earth is the only place we've found life in our solar system. Our solar system includes the Sun, eight planets, five officially named dwarf planets, 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.

What planets are in the Solar System?

It includes the rocky inner planets Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars; the gas giants Jupiter and Saturn; and the ice giants Uranus and Neptune. Between Mars and Jupiter is a collection of asteroids known as the asteroid belt, while beyond Neptune is where small icy bodies, like Pluto and comets, live. How old is our solar system?

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What are minor bodies in the Solar System?

Minor bodies in the Solar System include all objects that are neither planets, dwarf planets, nor moons. These include: Asteroids – Also called "small planets," they primarily reside in the Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter. Meteoroids – Smaller fragments of asteroids or comets that can enter Earth's atmosphere as meteors.

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