

The Solar System - A Quick Overview

The Solar System consists of the Sun and everything bound to it by gravity. This includes the eight planets, their moons, dwarf planets, asteroids, comets, and meteoroids.

The Sun is a medium-sized star at the center of our Solar System. It is made mostly of hydrogen and helium, and its gravity holds everything in orbit.

The eight planets, in order from the Sun, are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. The first four are terrestrial planets (rocky), while the last four are gas or ice giants.

Asteroids are small rocky bodies, mostly found in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Comets are icy bodies that release gas and dust, forming tails when near the Sun.

The Solar System formed about 4.6 billion years ago from the gravitational collapse of a giant molecular cloud.