One of the studies, led by NASA's Dr. Chris Webster, compares Mars's rock crater data directly with Earth's climate data.ĊDr. Webster expounds, "As Mars became a planet and its magma solidified, catastrophic out-gassing occurred while volatiles were delivered by impact of comets and other small bodies."Ċ"Our Curiosity measurements are - for the first time - accurate enough to make direct comparisons with measurements done on Earth on meteorites using sophisticated large instrumentation that gives high accuracy results."ĊAs scientists compare the two parallel studies, it is the first time two separate studies utilizing different techniques have elicited the same composition results.ĊMars once had an oxygen rich environmentĊAnd both results point out that Mars was once teaming with oxygen. Monica Grady, professor of planetary sciences at The Open University, wrote that, "These findings reverse the results from the Phoenix mission and clear up some confusion over the composition of the Martian atmosphere."ĊNASA's Spirit rover has recently brought back rock samples from Mars's Gusev crater, showing five times as much nickel in their composition compared to meteorites that have fallen to Earth. The science behind the nickel-rich rocks point out that these rocks formed in an oxygen rich environment at least 3.7 billion years ago, while