

Jupiter Facts

Jupiter is a massive planet, twice the size of all other planets combined and has a centuries-old storm that is bigger than Earth.

It is the fifth planet from the Sun and the largest planet of the Solar System. Jupiter is the oldest planet of the Solar System thus it was the first to take shape out of the remains of the solar nebula.

Key Facts & Summary

- As the fourth brightest object in the sky, Jupiter was observed since ancient times and so one can be credited for its discovery. However, the first telescopic observations were conducted by Galileo Galilei in 1609 and in 1610 Galileo also discovered the major moons of Jupiter.
- Since many cultures observed Jupiter, they all gave it different names but the Roman name remained used in the majority of cultures. Jupiter is named after the principal Roman god, the equivalent of the Greek god Zeus.
- Jupiter is one of the five visible planets (Mercury, Venus, Mars, Saturn), being the fifth most distant from the Sun at an average distance of 5.2 AU.
- It is the biggest planet of the Solar System, with a mean radius of 43,440 miles/69,911 km,.
- Jupiter is twice as large as all the other planets combined having 318 times the mass of Earth.
- The gas giant has a gravity of 24.79 m/s^2 , a little more than twice of Earth. Its powerful gravity has been used to hurl spacecraft into the farthest regions of the solar system.
- Jupiter rotates once every 10 hours – A Jovian day - the shortest day of all the planets.
- A Jovian year is about 12 Earth years, quite long in comparison to its short days.
- Since Jupiter has a small axial tilt of only 3.13 degrees, it has little seasonal variations.
- Jupiter does not have a solid surface being comprised mostly out of swirling gases and liquids such as 90% hydrogen, 10% helium – very similar to the sun.
- A very small fraction of the atmosphere is made up of compounds such as ammonia, sulphur, methane, and water vapor. Jupiter's atmosphere is the largest planetary atmosphere in the solar system, it makes up almost the entire planet.
- Jupiter has 3 ring systems though they are fainter and smaller than Saturn's. They are mostly made up of dust and small rocky pieces.
- A distinct feature of Jupiter is its Great Red Spot – a persistent high-pressure region in the atmosphere that produces an anticyclonic storm, the largest in the solar system. It has been observed since 1830, and it is active for hundreds of years. It is also shrinking.

<https://nineplanets.org/>



info@sloughbid.co.uk
@slough_bid
#sloughbid

