

PLANET HANDOUT 2016 (for every planetary lecture)

TERRESTRIAL PLANETS

Item	Mercury	Venus	Earth	Mars
Mean distance (AU)	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.5
Albedo (%)	11	65	37	15
Mean density (g/cm ³)	5.4	5.2	5.5	3.9
Diameter (D _E)	0.4	0.95	1.0	0.5
Sidereal "day" (d)	59	243	1.0	1.03
Sidereal "year" (yr)	0.24	0.61	1.0	1.9
Moons	0	0	1	2
Rings	no	no	no	no
Equatorial magnetic field (nT) (T = Tesla)	300	<2	31,000	<20
Core temperature (K)	1,300	4,300	5,500	3,000
Surface temperatures (K)	100–700	750	180–330	140–300
Core pressure (atm)	4 x 10 ⁵	3 x 10 ⁶	4 x 10 ⁶	4–5 x 10 ⁵
Surface pressure (atm)	10 ⁻¹²	90	1	0.006
Main atmospheric gases	Na, O, He	CO ₂ , N ₂	N ₂ , O ₂	CO ₂ , N ₂
Clouds	none	H ₂ SO ₄	H ₂ O	H ₂ O ice
Sky color	none	orange	blue	reddish

JOVIAN PLANETS

Item	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
Mean distance (AU)	5.2	9.6	19.2	30.1
Albedo (%)	52	47	51	41
Mean density (g/cm ³)	1.3	0.7	1.3	1.6
Diameter (D _E)	11	9	4	4
Sidereal "day" (d)	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.7
Sidereal "year" (yr)	12	29	84	165
Moons	67	62	27	14
Rings	yes	yes	yes	yes
Equatorial magnetic field (nT) (T = Tesla)	430,000	22,000	23,000	14,000
Core temperature (K)	22,000	11,000	7,000	8,000
Surface temperature (K)	165*	135*	76*	71*
Core pressure (atm)	7 x 10 ⁷	4 x 10 ⁷	6 x 10 ⁶	8 x 10 ⁶
Surface pressure (atm)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Main atmospheric gases	H ₂ , He	H ₂ , He	H ₂ , He, CH ₄	H ₂ , He, CH ₄
Clouds (ice crystals)	NH ₃ , H ₂ O, NH ₄ SH	NH ₃ , H ₂ O, NH ₄ SH	CH ₄ , H ₂ O	CH ₄ , H ₂ O

* atmospheric layer where atmospheric pressure = 1 atm