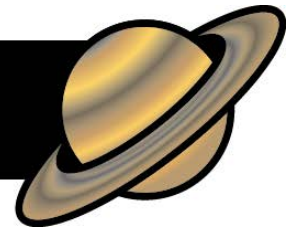


Jupiter's moons



Jupiter has 63 moons, but many of them are small. The smallest have a diameter of only a few kilometres. Jupiter's four largest moons are known as the Galilean moons, after their discoverer, Galileo. He was the first to see them with the newly invented telescope in 1610.

Use the table below to make a scale model or drawing of Jupiter and its four largest moons.

	DIAMETER	DISTANCE FROM JUPITER	TIME TO ORBIT JUPITER	CHARACTERISTICS
Jupiter	140 000 km	-	-	Jupiter is the largest planet in the Solar System. Like the Sun, Jupiter is mostly made of hydrogen, but unlike the Sun Jupiter is very cold. Jupiter's surface is a mixture of liquid hydrogen and hydrogen gas.
Io	3 600 km	422 000 km	42 hours	Io has over 400 active volcanoes that produce sulfur plumes and lava flows. Io has a rocky surface with a yellow coating of sulfur.
Europa	3 200 km	671 000 km	85 hours	Europa is a rocky moon with a very smooth, icy surface. Scientists believe there is a vast ocean just under Europa's surface.
Ganymede	5 300 km	1 000 000 km	172 hours	Ganymede is made of a mixture of rock and ice. It has an underground ocean and a surface covered in impact craters.
Callisto	4 800 km	1 880 000 km	247 hours	Callisto is made of a mixture of ice and rock. It has a very ancient surface that is covered in more craters than any other body in the Solar System.