

Earth Facts

Earth is the 5th largest planet and the third from the Sun. It is a solid mass with a dense core of magnetic material. The outer 2/3 part of the core is thought to be liquid. Around this core is a thick shell of dense rock, known as the mantle. The mantle is covered by a thin crust of granite and basalt, which forms the base of the continents and ocean basins. The Earth's atmosphere is composed of 77% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, and 1% argon. There are small quantities of carbon dioxide, hydrogen, neon, helium, krypton, and xenon as well. The gases remain in this state for approximately 300,000 feet upward into the atmosphere.



Distance from the Sun	93,000,000 miles
Period of revolution	365.3 days
Rotation period	23 hours 56 minutes 4.2 seconds
Radius	3,959 miles
Average surface temperature	45°F
Mass	6.59×10^{21} tons
Distance from Moon	238,856 miles