

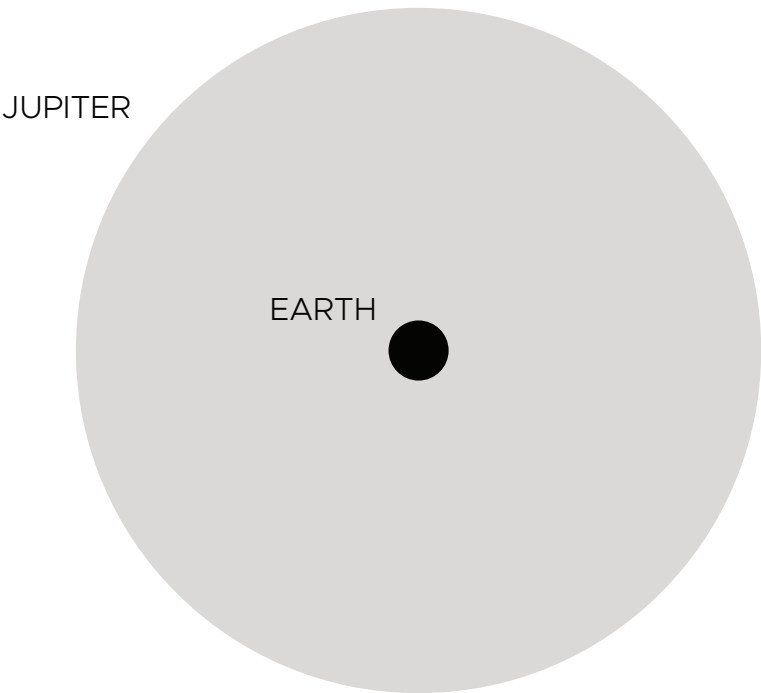


The planets are shown in their correct order of distance from the Sun and their correct relative orbital distances. The sizes of the bodies are greatly exaggerated relative to the orbital distances.

EARTH—our home planet— is the third planet from the Sun, and the only place we know of so far that’s inhabited by living things.

While Earth is only the fifth largest planet in the solar system, it is the only world in our solar system with abundant liquid water on the surface. Just slightly larger than nearby Venus, Earth is the biggest of the four planets closest to the Sun, all of which are made of mostly rock and metal.

This image of Earth is part of a family portrait of our solar system taken by the Voyager 1 spacecraft from about 3.8 billion miles (6.4 billion kilometers) away. The image inspired the title of scientist Carl Sagan's 1994 book, "Pale Blue Dot: A Vision of the Human Future in Space," in which he wrote: "Look again at that dot. That's here. That's home. That’s us."



Earth is 0.09x (or 9%) the size of Jupiter and 0.009x (or ~1%) the size of the Sun

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