

# Moons

## What Is A Moon?

A moon is a natural satellite that orbits a planet. As with planets, it is sometimes hard to know exactly what status a moon has. For example, whereas many moons (such as Earth’s Moon) formed at about the same time as the planets they orbit, many other moons probably formed as independent objects that were then captured in a planet’s gravitational field.

## What are some of the largest moons in the solar system?

The following table lists large moons in our solar system

Large Moons in Our Solar System				
Name	Planet	Distance from planet (km)	diameter (km)	orbital period (days)
Moon	Earth	384,000	3,476	27.32
Phobos	Mars	9,270	28	0.32
Deimos	Mars	23,460	8	1.26
Amalthea	Jupiter	181,300	262	0.50
Io	Jupiter	421,600	3,629	1.77
Europa	Jupiter	670,900	3,126	3.55
Ganymede	Jupiter	1,070,000	5,276	7.16
Callisto	Jupiter	1,883,000	4,800	16.69
Mimas	Saturn	185,520	398	0.94
Enceladus	Saturn	238,020	498	1.37
Thetis	Saturn	294,660	1,060	1.89
Rhea	Saturn	527,040	1,528	4.52
Dione	Saturn	377,400	1,120	2.74
Titan	Saturn	1,221,850	5,150	15.95
Hyperion	Saturn	1,481,000	360	21.28
Iapetus	Saturn	3,561,300	1,436	79.32
Miranda	Uranus	129,780	472	1.41
Ariel	Uranus	191,240	1,160	2.52
Umbriel	Uranus	265,970	1,190	4.14
Titania	Uranus	435,840	1,580	8.71
Oberon	Uranus	582,600	1,526	13.46
Proteus	Neptune	117,600	420	1.12
Triton	Neptune	354,800	2,705	5.88
Nereid	Neptune	5,513,400	340	360.16