

Celestial Bodies

star

planet

dwarf planet

moon (or satellite)

asteroid

comet

small solar system body

Examples

Sun

Earth

Pluto

Europa (of Jupiter)

Apophis

Halley's Comet

Asteroids, Comets, etc.

Definitions

Large, glowing ball of gas. Generates heat and light through nuclear fusion in its core.

Large object that (1) orbits a star, (2) is large enough for its own gravity to make it round, (3) has cleared most other objects from its orbital path. Shines by reflecting light from its star.

Object that fails to meet the last criterion to be a planet.

Orbits a planet. Can refer to any object orbiting another object.

Small, rocky object that orbits a star.

Small, ice-rich object that orbits a star.

Asteroid, comet, or other object that orbits a star but is too small to qualify as a planet or dwarf planet



By **Vander** (Vander)
cheatography.com/vander/

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