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<b>Equatorial Diameter:</b>	12,756 km
<b>Polar Diameter:</b>	12,714 km
<b>Mass:</b>	$5.97 \times 10^{24}$ kg
<b>Moons:</b>	1 ( <b>The Moon</b> )
<b>Orbit Distance:</b>	149,598,262 km (1 AU)
<b>Orbit Period:</b>	365.24 days
<b>Surface Temperature:</b>	-88 to 58°C

## Why is it Named > The Planet Earth ? >

The name **Earth** derives from the eighth century Anglo-Saxon word *erda*, which means ground or soil.

It became *eorthe* later,

and then *erthe* in Middle English.

Earth is the only planet that wasn't named after a Greek or Roman god or goddess

## Why Do They Call The Earth Terra firma?

Terra firma is a Latin phrase, literally meaning "firm land."

In the 1600s, terra firma primarily referred just to the section of Italy that was ruled by Venice at the time, but eventually it came to designate all of earth's dry land, separate from the air or the oceans.

In post-classical Latin astronomical terminology, Earth is often referred to as "Terra".

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The Earth's rotation is gradually slowing. This deceleration is happening almost imperceptibly, at approximately 17 milliseconds per hundred years, although the rate at which it occurs is not perfectly uniform. This has the effect of lengthening our days, but it happens so slowly that it could be as much as 140 million years before the length of a day will have increased to 25 hours.

The Earth was once believed to be the centre of the universe. Due to the apparent movements of the Sun and planets in relation to their viewpoint, ancient scientists insisted that the Earth remained static, whilst other celestial bodies travelled in circular orbits around it. Eventually, the view that the Sun was at the centre of the universe was postulated by Copernicus, though this is also not the case.

Earth has a powerful magnetic field. This phenomenon is caused by the nickel-iron core of the planet, coupled with its rapid rotation. This field protects the Earth from the effects of solar wind.

The Earth is the densest planet in the Solar System. This varies according to the part of the planet; for example, the metallic core is denser than the crust. The average density of the Earth is approximately 5.52 grams per cubic centimetre.

When astronauts first went into the space, they looked back at the Earth with human eyes for the first time, and called our home the Blue Planet. And it's no surprise. 70% of our planet is covered with oceans. The remaining 30% is the solid ground, rising above sea level.

Want To Know More?

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