

Jupiter

Jupiter, named after the king of the Roman gods, is the largest planet in our solar system and the fifth planet from the Sun. It is so large that all of the other planets in the solar system could fit inside of it.

Jupiter has the most natural satellites or moons of any planet. The count is currently at 63, although not all of them have been named. In 1610, Galileo Galilei discovered Jupiter's four largest moons. They are Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto. Together, these four moons are known as the *Galilean satellites*.



Image courtesy of <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov>

Jupiter is a giant ball of gas, made up of mostly hydrogen and helium. Its stripes and swirls are cold, windy clouds of ammonia and water. The largest swirling area of gas on Jupiter is a hurricane-like storm that is known as the Great Red Spot. This storm has been raging on Jupiter for hundreds of years.

Jupiter is surrounded by a system of thin rings. The majority of the rings are made up of very small particles thought to be debris from meteoroid collisions.

Jupiter rotates on its axis every 9.925 hours, faster than any other planet in our solar system. It takes Jupiter almost 12 Earth years (11.8565 Earth years to be exact) to orbit the Sun.

After reading the information above, fold your paper on the line and try to answer the questions below without referring back to the data. (Check the box with the correct answer.)

- Jupiter is made up mostly of _____?
 rock and ice hydrogen and helium dust and meteorites
- The four largest moons of Jupiter are also known as the _____.
 Ganymede satellites Glacier satellites Galilean satellites
- Jupiter completes its rotation _____ all the other planets?
 slower than faster than the same as
- Jupiter has more _____ than any other planet.
 moons rings storms

Jupiter

Jupiter, named after the king of the Roman gods, is the largest planet in our solar system and the fifth planet from the Sun. It is so large that all of the other planets in the solar system could fit inside of it.

Jupiter has the most natural satellites or moons of any planet. The count is currently at 63, although not all of them have been named. In 1610, Galileo Galilei discovered Jupiter's four largest moons. They are Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto. Together, these four moons are known as the *Galilean satellites*.



Image courtesy of <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov>

Jupiter is a giant ball of gas, made up of mostly hydrogen and helium. Its stripes and swirls are cold, windy clouds of ammonia and water. The largest swirling area of gas on Jupiter is a hurricane-like storm that is known as the Great Red Spot. This storm has been raging on Jupiter for hundreds of years.

Jupiter is surrounded by a system of thin rings. The majority of the rings are made up of very small particles thought to be debris from meteoroid collisions.

Jupiter rotates on its axis every 9.925 hours, faster than any other planet in our solar system. It takes Jupiter almost 12 Earth years (11.8565 Earth years to be exact) to orbit the Sun.

After reading the information above, fold your paper on the line and try to answer the questions below without referring back to the data. (Check the box with the correct answer.)

- Jupiter is made up mostly of _____?
 rock and ice hydrogen and helium dust and meteorites
- The four largest moons of Jupiter are also known as the _____.
 Ganymede satellites Glacier satellites Galilean satellites
- Jupiter completes its rotation _____ all the other planets?
 slower than faster than the same as
- Jupiter has more _____ than any other planet.
 moons rings storms