



# Make Your Own Solar System

## The Planet Sizes

### What you need to do

We are going to see if we can in some way replicate the Solar System in our home or garden.

To do this we need to think about the size of each of the planets.

### Materials

One of each of the following items or food (listed from largest to smallest);

- |                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| ★ A big football or melon             | Jupiter       |
| ★ Large potato or big grapefruit      | Saturn        |
| ★ A small blueberry or a pea          | Mercury       |
| ★ Cherry tomato or a bottle top       | Earth & Venus |
| ★ Apple or tennis ball                | Uranus        |
| ★ Lime/lemon/plum or a ping pong ball | Neptune       |
| ★ A grape                             | Mars          |

Now we need the Sun. In comparison to the planets it is of course very, very large and to represent it by scale you would have to use a small tent, and this would still be perhaps too small!

Order your planets by measuring from where you might have your Sun - if you could make it big enough - maybe use the sofa or the garden shed. The Sun to the Earth can be 1 metre.

- |           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| ★ Mercury | 40cm    |
| ★ Venus   | 70cm    |
| ★ Earth   | 1m      |
| ★ Mars    | 1m 50cm |
| ★ Jupiter | 5m 20cm |
| ★ Saturn  | 9m 50cm |
| ★ Uranus  | 19m     |
| ★ Neptune | 30m     |

Is Uranus in the kitchen or the bedroom upstairs? Has Neptune made it right out into the garden or street or down the stairs?

We don't think you will have the space to do this but it will give you a good idea of the size and distance between the planets.

**Remember and send us your Solar System photos!**

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