Mercury, the planet of Mystery

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The Planet and the God

The planet mercury also represents the Roman god Mercury, or in Greek mythology Hermes. He is the messenger of the gods, the god of trade, merchants, thieves, and travelers. He showed dead souls the way to the underworld.
Distance/Position

Mercury is the closest planet to the sun.

It is 57 million km (35 million miles) from the sun.

Mercury is 3,032 miles (4,879 km) in diameter.

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Planetary Size Comparison
(and also moons and other rocks)

Earth
Diameter 12,742 km

Mercury
Diameter 4,879 km
1 Earth mass = 18x Mercury
Rotational Period

It takes Mercury 59 Earth days to rotate on its axis. While it takes 88 days to orbit the sun.

Mercury's atmosphere contains a small amount of hydrogen, helium, and oxygen. It contains an even smaller amount of sodium, potassium, and magnesium.
Composition of Surface

Made up of about 70% metals and 30% silicate

Only slightly less dense than Earth (with 5.42 g/cm$^3$ vs. 5.52 g/cm$^3$)
Number of Natural Satellites

As of now, there are no natural satellites that are located on Mercury.
Mercury Visit

Two spacecrafts have been sent to Mercury so far.

The first was called the Mariner 10 which flew by Mercury three times, mapping out half of the surface. It also discovered its thin atmosphere and magnetic field.

In 2011, MESSENGER went into orbit, completely mapping out mercury in 2013.

BepiColombo was sent in 2015 and is expected to reach the planet by 2022.
Cosmic Travel and Solar Disposition

With a speed of 80,000 km/hr, it would take 40 days to reach Mercury from Earth (when they’re at their closest).

Mercury’s magnetic field is only 1% that of Earth’s.

It also has a thin atmosphere (not really) called an exosphere which interacts with the magnetic field to create magnetic tornadoes.

The atoms escape to space and become neutral because of intense solar pressure.
Facts 2.0

- Mercury has no moons or rings
- If you were on the surface your weight would be 38% of what it is on earth
- A single day on the surface would be 176 earth days
Facts v3

88 days is equal to a year on Mercury

Mercury has wrinkles and a molten core

It’s the second densest planet out of the 7 planets.

Only two spacecraft have ever visited Mercury.
Fun Facts

Mercury is the second hottest planet in our solar system

It is also the most cratered planet in our solar system

Only 2 spacecraft have ever visited Mercury

It is unknown who discovered Mercury