

Lectures 4-6: Key Features of the Jovian and Terrestrial Planets

The Jovian planets are: **Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune**

The terrestrial planets are : **Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars**

*See Chapter 6,
Table 6.2
Astronomy Today*

We can summarise the differences between them as follows:-

<u>Terrestrial Planets</u>	<u>Jovian Planets</u>
Lower mass, smaller radii	Higher mass, larger radii
Near the Sun	Distant from the Sun
[Higher surface temperature	Lower surface temperature]
Higher average density	Lower average density
H and He depleted	Abundant H and He
Solid surface	Gaseous / Liquid *
Slower rotation period	Rapid rotation period
No rings	Many rings
Few satellites	Many satellites

See SSP2
Lectures



*Rocky core deep inside

