

# Mercury Quantities

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## Mercury: Orbit

	Mercury	Earth	Mercury/Earth
Semi-major axis ( $10^6$ km)	57.9	149.6	0.387
Perihelion ( $10^6$ km)	46.0	147.1	0.313
Aphelion ( $10^6$ km)	69.8	152.1	0.459
Eccentricity	0.2056	0.0167	12.311
Inclination to ecliptic (deg)	7.00	0.00	-
Mean orbital velocity (m/s)	47.89	29.79	1.608
Sidereal orbital period (days)	87.969	365.256	0.241
Synodic period (days)	115.88	-	-
Sidereal rotation period (h)	1407.6	23.9345	58.785
Obliquity to orbit (deg)	-0.1	23.44	0.004

## Mercury: Body

	Mercury	Earth	Mercury/Earth
Mass ( $10^{24}$ kg)	0.3302	5.9736	0.055
Volume ( $10^{10}$ km <sup>3</sup> )	6.085	108.321	0.056
Equatorial radius (km)	2440	6378	0.38
Ellipticity	0.0000	0.0034	0.000
Mean density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	absolute	5.427	0.983
	Uncompressed	5.3	1.3
Eq. surface gravity (m/s <sup>2</sup> )	3.70	9.78	0.378
Escape velocity (km/s)	4.3	11.2	0.384
GM ( $10^6$ kg <sup>3</sup> /s <sup>2</sup> )	0.02203	0.3986	0.0553
Moment of inertia (C/MR <sup>2</sup> )	0.33	0.3308	0.998
J <sub>2</sub> ( $10^{-6}$ )	60	1082.63	0.055
Bond albedo	0.056	0.385	0.145
Visual geometric albedo	0.11	0.367	0.300
Visual magnitude V(1,0)	-0.42	-3.86	-
Solar irradiance (W/m)	at perihelion	14490	9.786
	at aphelion	6290	4.743
Black-body temperature (K)		442.5	1.789
	maximum	about 700	-
	minimum	about 100	-

## Mercury: Magnetosphere & Exosphere

	Mercury	Earth	Mercury/Earth	
Magnetic field	dipole moment (T·m <sup>3</sup> )	$\sim 5 \times 10^{12}$	$8 \times 10^{15}$	$\sim 0.0006$
	at equator surface (nT)	$\sim 3 \times 10^2$	$3 \times 10^4$	$\sim 0.01$
	at polar surface (nT)	$\sim 6 \times 10^2$	$6 \times 10^4$	$\sim 0.01$
Atmosphere	at dayside surface (/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$\sim 10^6$	$\sim 3 \times 10^{19}$	$\sim 10^{-13}$
	ionosphere[F-layer] (/cm <sup>3</sup> )	---	$\sim 2 \times 10^6$	---
	composition	O,Na,He,K,H,Ca	N <sub>2</sub> , O <sub>2</sub> , Ar	---
Solar wind	velocity (km/s)	$\sim 430$	$\sim 430$	$\sim 1$
	density (/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$\sim 73-32$	$\sim 7$	$\sim 10-5$
	magnetic field (nT)	$\sim 46-21$	$\sim 6$	$\sim 8-4$
	Alfven velocity (km/s)	$\sim 120-80$	$\sim 50$	$\sim 2.4-1.6$
Magnetopause	distance (subsolar)	$\sim 1.4R_M$	$\sim 10R_E$	$\sim 0.15$
Bow shock	distance (subsolar)	$\sim 2R_M$	$\sim 15R_E$	$\sim 0.15$