

# Magnitude of saturn from earth

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Saturn's magnetic field has significant quadrupole and octapole moments, making approximation of the central field as an offset dipole difficult.  $R_s$  denotes Saturnian model radius, defined here to be 60,330 km

Saturn's brightest magnitude, -0.55, occurs when the planet is both at perihelion (closest to the Sun in its orbit) and its ring system is open to the maximum extent as seen from Earth. Interestingly, the phase function for Saturn's rings is much stronger than that for the globe itself -- in other words, the ring particles backscatter ...

Saturn appears to the naked eye in the night sky as a bright, yellowish point of light. The mean apparent magnitude of Saturn is 0.46 with a standard deviation of 0.34. [24] Most of the magnitude variation is due to the inclination of the ring system relative to the Sun and Earth.

Apparent magnitude ( $m$ ) is a measure of the brightness of a star, astronomical object or other celestial objects like artificial satellites. Its value depends on its intrinsic luminosity, its distance, and any extinction of the object's light caused by interstellar dust along the line of sight to the observer.

Saturn is named after the Roman god of wealth and agriculture, who was the father of the god Jupiter. Its astronomical symbol ( $\♄$ ) has been traced back to the Greek Oxyrhynchus Papyri, where it can be seen to be a Greek kappa-rho ligature with a horizontal stroke, as an abbreviation for Kronos (Cronus), the Greek name for the planet ( $\Upsilon$ ).<sup>[35]</sup> It later came to look like a lower-case Greek eta, with the cross added at the top in the 16th century to Christianize this pagan symbol.

The Romans named the seventh day of the week Saturday, *Saturni diēs*, "Saturn's Day", for the planet Saturn.<sup>[36]</sup>

Despite consisting mostly of hydrogen and helium, most of Saturn's mass is not in the gas phase, because hydrogen becomes a non-ideal liquid when the density is above 0.01 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, which is reached at a radius containing 99.9% of Saturn's mass. The temperature, pressure, and density inside Saturn all rise steadily toward the core, which causes hydrogen to be a metal in the deeper layers.<sup>[41]</sup>

Saturn's atmosphere exhibits a banded pattern similar to Jupiter's, but Saturn's bands are much fainter and are much wider near the equator. The nomenclature used to describe these bands is the same as on Jupiter. Saturn's finer cloud patterns were not observed until the flybys of the Voyager spacecraft during the 1980s. Since then, Earth-based telescoping has improved to the point where regular observations can be made.<sup>[61]</sup>

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