

# Mars: The Red Planet

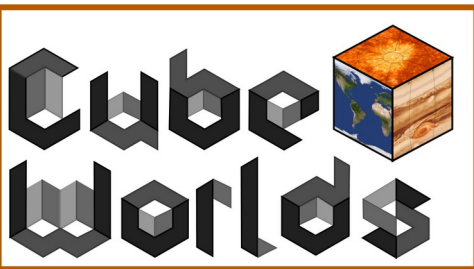
The planet Mars is the next planet out from our Sun beyond Earth – that means that after Venus, Mars is typically the closest planet to Earth. Even more intriguing is that Mars is also the most nearly Earth-like planet in our Solar System: Mars has sand dunes, dust devils, volcanoes, polar ice caps, frozen water ice. Scientists have also found evidence that liquid water – the essential ingredient for life – once flowed on the surface of Mars. Because it's so interesting, Mars has also been visited by more spacecraft than any other planet.

Learn more about Mars at <https://mars.nasa.gov/>.

## Instructions:

Just cut out the colored region, and make small slits at the yellow lines. Then fold up the sides of the cube, fold down all the tabs, fold along the thin grey lines, and slip the smaller tabs inside the slits. (Even easier: just cut off all the tabs and stick everything together with tape). Voila: your own gas-giant exoplanet!

Of course, real planets are spherical, not cubes – but we think you'll agree that a cube is easier to cut & fold!



<https://astro.ku.edu/cubeworlds/>



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