

Phobos: Moon of Mars

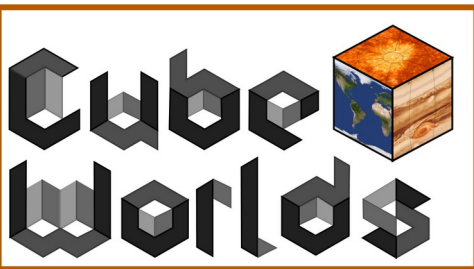
Our neighboring planet Mars has two moons: Phobos and Deimos. Phobos is the larger of the two, but it is only about 20 km across – far smaller than our own Moon. It also has a very low surface gravity: you would weigh less than 0.1% as much on Phobos as you do on Earth, and you could easily jump right off of it. Like our Moon, Phobos is covered with craters from past collisions with interplanetary debris. Scientists think that Phobos was either a rogue asteroid captured by the gravity of Mars, or that it may itself be a leftover fragment from a larger object.

Learn more about the moons of 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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