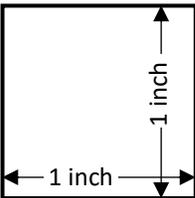


## Venus Versus Earth—A Comparison

Characteristic	Venus	Earth
Image		
1. order from sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> planet from the sun	3 <sup>rd</sup> planet from the sun
2. average distance from Sun (miles)	67,000,000 miles (about 3/4 earth's distance)	93,000,000 miles (93 million miles)
3. average diameter (miles)	7521 miles (just a little smaller than earth's diameter)	7918 miles
		
4. shape	Sphere	sphere
5. surface gravity at equator (1 gravity = earth's)	0.9 gravity (slightly less than earth's)	1 gravity
6. day length— 1 spin on axis (Earth days)	243 days	1 day
7. temperature at surface (°F) (note: water freezes at 32°F, boils at 212°F)	864°F (same day and night) (note: lead melts at 621°F)	-128°F (night, poles) to 131°F (day, equator) [Average 57°F]
8. surface broken into large chunks (plates) which move?	No	Yes
9. layer of gases (atmosphere) surrounds the object?	Yes	Yes
10. composition of atmosphere—main gases (% by volume)	96.5% carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), 3.4% nitrogen (N <sub>2</sub> ), 0.015% sulfur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), 0.007% argon (Ar), 0.002% water vapor (H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>vapor</sub> )	78% nitrogen (N <sub>2</sub> ), 21% oxygen (O <sub>2</sub> ), 0.9% argon (Ar), 0.04% carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), 0 to 3% water vapor (H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>vapor</sub> )
11. weight of atmosphere on every square inch of surface	1,334 pounds (per square inch)	14.7 pounds (per square inch)
		
12. water (H <sub>2</sub> O) exists in liquid form?	No	Yes
13. water (H <sub>2</sub> O) exists in solid form (ice)?	No	Yes
14. evidence of life detected?	No	Yes