

Name _____

How Many Moons Are There in Our Solar System?

Short Answer Key

1. Earth is unique among the inner planets because it has a single moon, while Mercury and Venus have none.
2. Phobos and Deimos are Mars' two small moons. Phobos is the larger of the two and is slowly spiraling inward due to tidal forces. They are thought to be captured asteroids.
3. Jupiter has the most known moons in our solar system, with 79. The four largest are Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto, known as the Galilean moons.
4. Triton, Neptune's largest moon, is unique because it has a retrograde orbit, meaning it orbits Neptune in the opposite direction of the planet's rotation.
5. There are over 200 known moons in our solar system, but this count may change as we discover more.

