

EXHIBIT 1



Lunar phase

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.
Find sources: "Lunar phase" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (July 2012) (Learn how and when to remove this template message)

The **lunar phase** or **phase of the Moon** is the shape of the directly sunlit portion of the Moon as viewed from Earth. The lunar phases gradually and cyclically change over the period of a synodic month (about 29.53 days), as the orbital positions of the Moon around Earth and of Earth around the Sun shift.

The Moon's rotation is tidally locked by Earth's gravity; therefore, most of the same lunar side always faces Earth. This near side is variously sunlit, depending on the position of the Moon in its orbit. Thus, the sunlit portion of this face can vary from 0% (at new moon) to 100% (at full moon). The lunar terminator is the boundary between the illuminated and darkened hemispheres.

Each of the four "intermediate" lunar phases (see below) is around 7.4 days, but this varies slightly due to the elliptical shape of the Moon's orbit. Aside from some craters near the lunar poles, such as Shoemaker, all parts of the Moon see around 14.77 days of daylight, followed by 14.77 days of "night". (The side of the Moon facing away from Earth is sometimes called the "dark side of the Moon", although that is a misnomer.)

Contents [hide]
1 Phases of the Moon
1.1 Waxing and waning
1.2 Orientation by latitude
1.3 Earthshine
2 Calendar
3 Calculating phase
4 Effect of parallax
5 Misconceptions
6 See also
7 Footnotes
8 References
9 Bibliography
10 External links
10.1 General
10.2 Educational aids



The lunar phases and librations in 2019 as viewed from the Southern Hemisphere at hourly intervals, with music, titles, and supplemental graphics



A full Moon sets behind San Geronio Mountain (in California) in a midsummer morning.

Phases of the Moon [edit]

"Waxing gibbous" redirects here. For the album, see Waxing Gibbous.

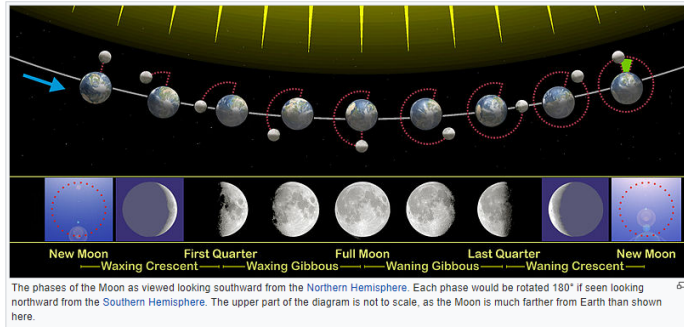
In western culture, the four principal phases of the Moon are new moon, first quarter, full moon, and third quarter (also known as last quarter). These are the instances when the Moon's ecliptic longitude and the Sun's ecliptic longitude differ by 0°, 90°, 180°, and 270°, respectively.^[d] Each of these phases occur at slightly different times when viewed from different points on Earth. During the intervals between principal phases, the Moon's apparent shape is either crescent or gibbous. These shapes, and the periods when the Moon shows them, are called the intermediate phases and last one-quarter of a synodic month, or 7.38 days, on average. However, their durations vary slightly because the Moon's orbit is rather elliptical, so the satellite's orbital speed is not constant. The descriptor waxing is used for an intermediate phase when the Moon's apparent shape is thickening, from new to full moon, and waning when the shape is thinning.

The eight principal and intermediate phases are given the following names, in sequential order:

Principal and intermediate phases of the Moon

Table with 10 columns: Moon Phase, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, Visibility, Mid-phase standard time, Average moonrise time, Average moonset time, Northern Hemisphere (visual), Southern Hemisphere (visual), Photograph (view from Northern Hemisphere). Rows include New Moon, Waxing crescent, First Quarter, Waxing gibbous, Full Moon, and Waning gibbous.

Waning gibbous	Left side, 99.9%–50.1% lit disc	Right side, 99.9%–50.1% lit disc	Most of night and early morning	3 am	9 pm	9 am			
Last Quarter	Left side, 50% lit disc	Right side, 50% lit disc	Late night and morning	6 am	Midnight	Noon			
Waning crescent	Left side, 49.9%–0.1% lit disc	Right side, 49.9%–0.1% lit disc	Pre-dawn to early afternoon	9 am	3 am	3 pm			



Non-Western cultures may use a different number of lunar phases; for example, traditional **Hawaiian culture** has a total of 30 phases (one per day).^[1]

Waxing and waning [[edit](#)]

When the Sun and Moon are *aligned* on the same side of the Earth, the Moon is "new", and the side of the Moon facing Earth is not illuminated by the Sun. As the Moon *waxes* (the amount of illuminated surface as seen from Earth is increasing), the lunar phases progress through new moon, crescent moon, first-quarter moon, *gibbous* moon, and full moon. The Moon is then said to *wane* as it passes through the gibbous moon, third-quarter moon, crescent moon, and back to new moon. The terms *old moon* and *new moon* are not interchangeable. The "old moon" is a waning sliver (which eventually becomes undetectable to the naked eye) until the moment it aligns with the Sun and begins to wax, at which point it becomes new again.^[2] *Half moon* is often used to mean the first- and third-quarter moons, while the term *quarter* refers to the extent of the Moon's cycle around the Earth, not its shape.

When an illuminated hemisphere is viewed from a certain angle, the portion of the illuminated area that is visible will have a two-dimensional shape as defined by the intersection of an ellipse and circle (in which the ellipse's major axis coincides with the circle's diameter). If the half-ellipse is convex with respect to the half-circle, then the shape will be gibbous (bulging outwards),^[3] whereas if the half-ellipse is concave with respect to the half-circle, then the shape will be a *crescent*. When a crescent moon occurs, the phenomenon of *earthshine* may be apparent, where the night side of the Moon dimly reflects indirect sunlight reflected from Earth.^[4]

Orientation by latitude [[edit](#)]

In the **Northern Hemisphere**, if the left (east) side of the Moon is dark, then the bright part is thickening, and the Moon is described as *waxing* (shifting toward full moon). If the right (west) side of the Moon is dark, then the bright part is thinning, and the Moon is described as *waning* (past full and shifting toward new moon). Assuming that the viewer is in the Northern Hemisphere, the right side of the Moon is the part that is always waxing. (That is, if the right side is dark, the Moon is becoming darker; if the right side is lit, the Moon is getting brighter.)

In the **Southern Hemisphere**, the Moon is observed from a perspective inverted, or rotated 180°, to that of the Northern and to all of the images in this article, so that the opposite sides appear to wax or wane.

Closer to the **Equator**, the *lunar terminator* will appear horizontal during the morning and evening. Since the above descriptions of the lunar phases only apply at *middle* or *high latitudes*, observers moving towards the **tropics** from northern or southern latitudes will see the Moon rotated anti-clockwise or clockwise with respect to the images in this article.

The lunar crescent can open upward or downward, with the "horns" of the crescent pointing up or down, respectively. When the Sun appears above the Moon in the sky, the crescent opens downward; when the Moon is above the Sun, the *crescent opens upward*. The crescent Moon is most clearly and brightly visible when the Sun is below the horizon, which implies that the Moon must be above the Sun, and the crescent must open upward. This is therefore the orientation in which the crescent Moon is most often seen from the tropics. The waxing and waning crescents look very similar. The waxing crescent appears in the western sky in the evening, and the waning crescent in the eastern sky in the morning.

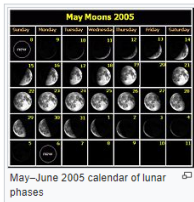
Earthshine [[edit](#)]

Main article: Earthlight (astronomy)

When the Moon as seen from Earth is a thin *crescent*, Earth as viewed from the Moon is almost fully lit by the Sun. Often, the dark side of the Moon is dimly illuminated by indirect sunlight reflected from Earth, but is bright enough to be easily visible from Earth. This phenomenon is called *earthshine* and sometimes picturesquely described as "the old moon in the new moon's arms" or "the new moon in the old moon's arms".

Calendar [[edit](#)]

Main article: Lunar calendar



The **Gregorian calendar month**, which is $\frac{1}{12}$ of a **tropical year**, is about 30.44 days, while the cycle of lunar phases (the Moon's *synodic period*) repeats every **29.53 days** on average. Therefore, the timing of the lunar phases shifts by an average of almost one day for each successive month. (A **lunar year** lasts about 354 days.)

Photographing the Moon's phase every day for a month (starting in the evening after **sunset**, and repeating roughly 24 hours and 50 minutes later, and ending in the morning before **sunrise**) and arranging the series of photos on a calendar would create a **composite image** like the example calendar (May 8 – June 6, 2005) shown on the left. May 20 is blank because a picture would be taken before midnight on May 19 and the next after midnight on May 21.

Similarly, on a calendar listing moonrise or moonset times, some days will appear to be skipped. When moonrise precedes **midnight** one night, the next moonrise will follow midnight on the next night (so too with moonset). The "skipped day" is just a feature of the Moon's **eastward movement** in relation to the Sun, which at most latitudes, causes the Moon to rise later each day. The Moon follows a predictable orbit every month.

Calculating phase [[edit](#)]

Each of the four intermediate phases lasts approximately seven days (7.38 days on average), but varies slightly due to lunar *apogee* and *perigee*.

The number of days counted from the time of the **new moon** is the Moon's "age". Each complete cycle of phases is called a "**lunation**".^[5]

The approximate age of the Moon, and hence the approximate phase, can be calculated for any date by calculating the number of days since a known new moon (such as January 1, 1900 or August 11, 1999) and reducing this modulo 29.530588853 (the length of a **synodic month**). The difference between two dates can be calculated by subtracting the **Julian day number** of one from that of the other, or there are simpler formulae giving (for instance) the number of days since December 31, 1899. However, this calculation assumes a perfectly **circular orbit** and makes no allowance for the time of day at which the new moon occurred and therefore may be incorrect by several hours. (It also becomes less accurate the larger the difference between the required date and the reference date). It is accurate enough to use in a novelty clock application showing lunar phase, but specialist usage taking account of lunar apogee and perigee requires a more elaborate calculation.

Effect of parallax [[edit](#)]

The **Earth** subtends an angle of about two degrees, when seen from the Moon. This means that an observer on Earth who sees the Moon when it is close to the eastern horizon sees it from an angle that is about 2 degrees different from the line of sight of an observer who sees the Moon on the **western horizon**. The Moon moves about 12 degrees around its orbit per day, so, if these observers were stationary, they would see the phases of the Moon at times that differ by about one-sixth of a day, or 4 hours. But in reality the observers are on the surface of the rotating Earth, so someone who sees the Moon on the **eastern horizon** at one moment sees it on the western horizon about 12 hours later. This adds an oscillation to the apparent progression of the lunar phases. They appear to occur more slowly when the Moon is high in the sky than when it is below the horizon. The Moon appears to move jerkily, and the phases do the same. The amplitude of this oscillation is never more than about four hours, which is a small fraction of a **month**. It does not have any obvious effect on the appearance of the Moon. However, it does affect accurate calculations of the times of lunar phases.

