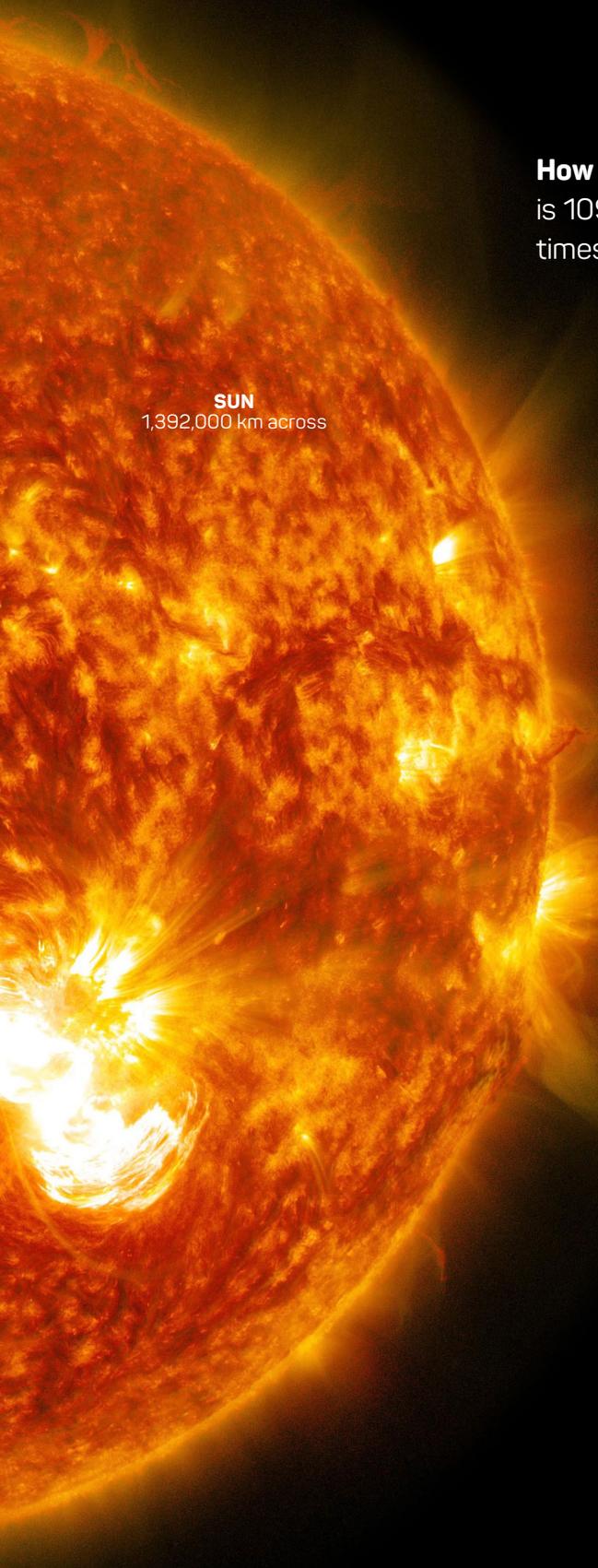


Sizing Up the Sun, Earth, and Moon

The Sun is much, much bigger than Earth!

How do the Sun, Earth, and Moon compare in a lineup? The Sun is 109 times bigger across than Earth, and Earth is about 3.67 times bigger across than the Moon.



SUN
1,392,000 km across

EARTH
12,742 km across

MOON
3,474 km across



So in human terms, if the Sun were the height of a child (1.09 m), Earth would be about the width of a fingernail (1 cm), and the Moon would be about the width of a single freckle (0.27 cm)!

Then why do the Sun and Moon look the same size to us? The Sun is about 400 times bigger across than the Moon, but it also happens to be around 400 times farther away from Earth. As a result, the Sun and Moon appear to be nearly the same size in the sky—even though the Sun is much bigger.

SEE daily images of the Sun from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory:
[nasa.gov/mission_pages/sdo/the-sun-now](https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/sdo/the-sun-now)

LEARN MORE about Earth's Moon:
www.nasa.gov/moon