

# Phases of the Moon



**New  
Moon**

This phase of the Moon occurs when the Moon is on



**Waxing  
Crescent**

It is a thin fraction of the Moon's illuminated side. It

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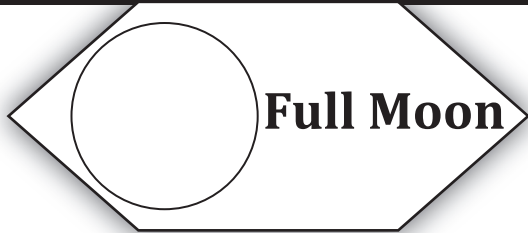


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I also called a half-moon because 50% of the Moon's face is illuminated by the Sun. This phase is halfway between the new moon and the full moon.

phase, the Moon is illuminated more than 50%. This is the last phase before the Moon reaches fullness.

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**Full Moon**

Earth lies between the Sun and the Moon during this



**Waning Gibbous**

The word "waning" means "decreasing." The lit-up part

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quarter moon because the Moon has completed  $\frac{3}{4}$  of its orbit around Earth. Here, the opposite side of the Moon is illuminated when compared with the first quarter.

Moon. The Moon decreases in size and looks like a curved sickle.