

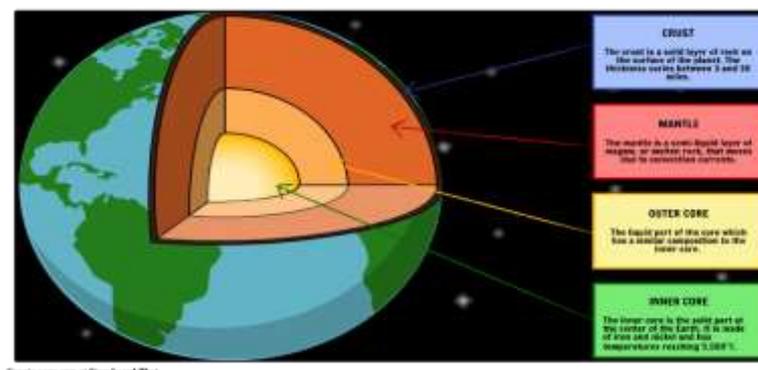
JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH

I am Dr Tyler, me and my crew say it will take less than a minute to fall through the **earth's crust** – its outermost hard shell made of the lighter rocks. The skin of our planet is only 35km thick and a mere 1 per cent of the **earth's mass**. The crust is composed of two types. The continental crust is made of the lightest rock such as granite and it forms the continents that overlay denser rocks was formed.

The Mantle is the largest region of our planet, comprising about 82 per cent of its volume and 65 per cent of its mass. On our journey to the heart of the planet you will reach the base of the lower mantle in about eight minutes. We must then prepare for the biggest shock of your journey. Nowhere in or on our planet is there such a dramatic change of scenery as the one you are about to experience. Suddenly, at a depth of 2,890 km, we burst through the rocky part of the earth into a sea of liquid metal five thousand degrees hot. This is the outer core, occupying about 10 per cent of the **earth's volume** and **27 per cent of its mass**. That's about the size of the planet mars.

The Outer Core made of molten iron, nickel, and other ingredients yet to be determined, the churning liquid outer core may have the viscosity of water. The other core is 5155km deep and we are doing fine down here.

The Inner Core at the centre of this spherical body of liquid is the inner core, a ball of iron alloy one-third the size of the moon. This metal ball is broiling hot at 11000 degrees fahrenheit, comparable to the surface of the sun, but it remains solid because of the enormous weight of all the rest of earth bearing down on it. and the inner core is 6371km deep and we are near the centre of the earth and doing fine.



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