



### Crab Nebula

The Crab Nebula is the remains of a supernova explosion nearly 1,000 years ago. This event was seen and recorded here on Earth. Its cloud of debris is lit by infrared light, visible light, and X-rays emitted by the dense neutron star left in the center.

This image combines infrared light (red) from the Spitzer Space Telescope, visible light (green and dark blue) from the Hubble Space Telescope, and X-rays (light blue) from the Chandra Space Telescope. These great telescopes expand our vision, revealing otherwise hidden structure, detail, and beauty.

See more beautiful nebulas at [www.spitzer.caltech.edu](http://www.spitzer.caltech.edu)

An  
infrared  
view of  
nebulas by

spitzer

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



### Rosebud Nebula, NGC 7129

This cloud of gas and dust, called a nebula, is a star nursery. It is 10 light-years across and already has given birth to about 130 stars. The main stars are less than a million years old, still in their infancy. It contains enough material to form a thousand stars like the Sun.

The Spitzer Space Telescope made this image in infrared light. Infrared light is not visible to our eyes or ordinary telescopes. Spitzer can see parts of the universe, such as gas and dust, that are too cool to be seen in detail using visible light telescopes.

Discover what else the Spitzer Space Telescope can see at [www.spitzer.caltech.edu](http://www.spitzer.caltech.edu).

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### Bode's Galaxy, M81

M81, often called Bode's Galaxy, is a spiral galaxy like our own Milky Way. It is 12 million light-years away and can be seen with a small telescope in the Big Dipper constellation part of the sky. This Spitzer Space Telescope image was made using infrared light. Our eyes cannot see infrared, so many of the details of the galaxy would be unknown to us if not for infrared telescopes.

The center of the galaxy (which appears white) has mostly old stars. The spiral arms, which appear red) contain a lot of gas and dust. The clumpy places in the spiral arms are where new stars are forming.

See more beautiful galaxies at [www.spitzer.caltech.edu](http://www.spitzer.caltech.edu)

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### Whirlpool Galaxy, M51

M51, also called the Whirlpool Galaxy, is a spiral galaxy with a much smaller companion galaxy. It is 37 million light-years away in the constellation Canes Venatici.

This image was made using four different wavelengths of infrared light. It shows in red the gas and dust between the spiral arms and mysterious spoke-like structures connecting them. The areas of gas and dust are where new stars are forming. The companion galaxy does not seem to be forming new stars. These star forming regions would not be seen in ordinary visible light.

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