



**Chandra X-ray
Observatory Center**

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Crab Nebula: The remains of an exploded star located about 6,500 light years from Earth.

(Image Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/SAO; Optical: NASA/STScI; Infrared: NASA/JPL-Caltech
Video Credit: NASA/ESA/STScI/F.Summers, et al.; NASA/CXC/SAO/N.Wolk, et al., & NASA/Caltech
/IPAC/R.Hurt)

Caption: The visible, infrared, and X-ray vision of NASA's Great Observatories have been combined to create a three-dimensional representation of the Crab Nebula. The visualization is based on images from the Chandra, Hubble and Spitzer space telescopes, and dissects the intricate nested structure that makes up the stellar corpse. The powerhouse "engine" energizing the Crab system is a pulsar, a rapidly spinning neutron star, that is shooting out blistering pulses of radiation towards us 30 times a second with clockwork precision. The three-dimensional interpretation is guided by science data and evidence, scientific knowledge and intuition, and artistic license.

Scale: Image is about 4.6 arcmin (8.7 light years) across.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
