

<p>A star is born! Blow up your star to about 10cm diameter</p>	<p>A star is born! Blow up your star to about 10cm diameter</p>
<p>Wait - don't blow up the star any further</p>	<p>Wait - don't blow up the star any further</p>
<p>Wait</p>	<p>Wait</p>
<p>Wait</p>	<p>Wait (planets are forming)</p>
<p>Wait</p>	<p>Blow up a little bit...</p>

**START**

**START**

**5 Million Years**

**5 Million Years**

**10 Million Years**

**10 Million Years**

**500 Million Years**

**500 Million Years**

**1 Billion Years**

**1 Billion Years**

<p>Wait</p>	<p>Blow up your star more. It is cooling, so colour your balloon red. It is now a supergiant!</p>
<p>Wait</p>	<p>The star's outer envelope blows away: deflate and cut up the balloon. A white dwarf in a planetary nebula remains</p>
<p>Blow up a little bit...</p>	<p>The planetary nebula blows further away - and is recycled. Put the balloon remnants in the recycling bin!</p>
<p>Deflate the balloon, and colour it black. The star's fuel is all burned, and a white dwarf remains</p>	<p>The nebula is gone, and the white dwarf has cooled and stopped glowing - colour it black</p>
<p>Very low mass stars - "red dwarfs" - burn their fuel very slowly, and live to great ages. They are the most common type of star, but not the most visible!</p>	<p>Stars like our sun live uneventful lives, which makes their planetary systems good places to live. Until the supergiant phase, that is... Earth will be engulfed in about 5 billion years' time! Will we be around to see it?</p>

**8 Billion Years**

**8 Billion Years**

**10 Billion Years**

**10 Billion Years**

**50 Billion Years**

**50 Billion Years**

**200 Billion Years**

**200 Billion Years**

**0.4  $M_{\text{Sun}}$**

**1  $M_{\text{Sun}}$**

A star is born!  
Blow up your star  
to about 10cm diameter

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Wait - don't blow up the  
star any further

Blow up a little bit...

Blow up a little bit...

Blow up the star as fast  
and as much as you can  
- when it is fully inflated,  
pop the balloon.  
Supernova!

Continue to slowly inflate  
the star. As it gets bigger  
it cools: colour it with  
yellow and red squiggles

All that remains is a black  
hole: all of the supernova  
remnants are thrown out  
into space

Quickly blow up the star,  
and pop it, in a  
supernova.  
A neutron star remains

The black hole  
is still there...

**START**

**START**

**5 Million Years**

**5 Million Years**

**10 Million Years**

**10 Million Years**

**500 Million Years**

**500 Million Years**

**1 Billion Years**

**1 Billion Years**

All of the supernova remnants are blown out into space, where they are recycled. Put the remnants in the recycling bin!

The black hole is still there...

The neutron star is still there...

The black hole is still there...

The neutron star is still there...

The black hole is still there...

The neutron star is still there...

The black hole is still there...

More massive stars live faster - and die younger, often violently. More mass means stronger gravity, overcoming any winds and collapsing the star in on itself - until it explodes

Very massive stars have very short lifetimes, burning through their fuel quickly, and shining very brightly as they do. Their cores are so heavy that nothing can stop them collapsing to a point - forming a black hole

**8 Billion Years**

**8 Billion Years**

**10 Billion Years**

**10 Billion Years**

**50 Billion Years**

**50 Billion Years**

**200 Billion Years**

**200 Billion Years**

**8  $M_{\text{Sun}}$**

**16  $M_{\text{Sun}}$**