Spiral galaxies	Elliptical galaxies	Irregular galaxies
Top view of a spiral galaxy		
Huge; contain stars, gas, and dust	Huge; contain stars, gas, and dust	Huge; contain stars, gas, and dust
Held together by gravity	Held together by gravity	Held together by gravity
Pinwheel shape (see top view, above)	Round to oval shape	No regular shape
Have a bulge and thin disk; halo is present (see lower view, above)	Have a bulge, but no disk; halo is present	May show signs of a disk and/or a bulge; halo is present
Rich in gas and dust	Little cool gas and dust	Usually rich in gas and dust
Young and old stars are present.	Mainly old stars are present.	Young and old stars are present.