Types of Planets

Our solar system has 2 types of planets:

1. Terrestrial (Earth-like) planets
* Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars
* These are small, solid planets made of heavier metal elements, primarily Iron
1. Jovian Planets
* Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune
* Large, gaseous planets made primarily of hydrogen called Gas Giants

Searching for Plate Tectonics on other Terrestrial planets:

Looking for characteristic gestures of associated with plate movement:

1. Trenches along side volcanoes indicating convergent plates of differing density and subduction of heavier plate

Diagram:

1. Long Mountain Ranges volcanoes indicating convergent plates of light density and folding of materials

Diagram:

1. Chain of larger to smaller volcanoes indicating movement over hot-spots

Diagram:

1. Additionally rock samples could be taken from a ridge feature on a planet and dated

Diagram:

Thus far no proof of plate tectonics on other planets