We don't know whether there are any aliens or not. But there are so many planets in the universe – some say more planets than all the grains of sand on Earth – that many scientists think it's worth looking.

And if they exist what do they look like?

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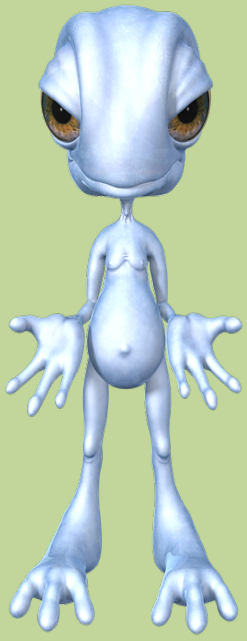
Well, movies and TV shows would have you believe they might look a bit like us—albeit, with big (bald) heads, green skin, and humongous eyes. But we weren't satisfied with that old cliché.

Let's see what some experts have to say about it. You will see they all have pretty different ideas. And you will share yours, right?

Kevin Anderson – a sci-fi author , doesn't believe that an alien species from an entirely different biochemical foundation would happen to turn out with two arms, two legs, two eyes, ears… and so on. But, for intelligence, one would assume brain capacity,

and therefore the body, would need some sort of protective mechanism for the vital brain—an exoskeleton, a skull, something like that.

"To build tools, they would need some kind of manipulative digits, like fingers. They would require some sort of sensory systems, the analogs of eyes, ears, smelling apparatuses.



But their 'eyes' would have evolved for the peak spectrum of their own sun, not necessarily ours.



Darren Campo, a TV producer and executive believes that an alien life form will be symmetrical. Everything we know, he says, follows a symmetrical pattern.

The size and shape of the alien would be determined by gravity, ambient density, and source of energy. If such life evolved in a thick atmosphere, it's likely to be a horizontal creature. A thinner atmosphere would favor the most vertical animals. It's not unlikely that aliens would have evolved just like humans: bipedal and upright.



"When we consider that 95 percent of the universe is not perceptible by our senses or technology (dark matter and energy), then it's most likely that's where the aliens are.



So one might say most aliens don't look like anything because they are invisible for us."

Aaron Rosenberg, sci-fi actor asks the question? – Why would an alien look that similar to us? Why have two sides exactly the same when you could have something completely different on the other side? And bipedal? Ridiculous—one good push and we

fall over. Why would another world's race grow eyes, and a nose, and a tongue, and all the other fiddly bits we have? They wouldn't.



"Perhaps life on other planets evolved without physical form or with no fixed form—perhaps there are aliens who are nothing more than sentient clouds, or who have mutable bodies that can alter to suit the needs of the moment.

Maybe they can sail through space unaided, and use stellar radiation for a food source. How small our planet is compared with the universe as a whole—it's like finding the weirdest-shaped M&M in the bag, and

then realizing that you're in an entire candy store filled with literally thousands of other kinds of candy, most of which you've never even heard of before.

Bernard Bates a physics professor says that "An octopus is a good example of an advanced-alien analogue on Earth.



Octopuses are quite (probably human-level) intelligent and live in a totally alien environment (compared with ours). Evolution has had to find novel solutions to the pressures they're under—pressures completely different than those that shaped mammals on land. Aliens with advanced technology would have

to be on land (technology needs fire to kick-start it).



Nnedi Okorafor has written a novel – Lagoon, telling the story about aliens that show up in Lagos, Nigeria. They are fundamental shape-shifters with consciousness.

They adapt to wherever they are. "I don't see why aliens couldn't be microscopic, only be seen at wavelengths beyond human detection, be built in a way so outside of human understanding that to look upon them would cause one to faint.

As you see – so many different ideas of what an alien will look like. We do not need to think the same, but it is really interesting to hear about other people's ideas.

What does your alien look like? Where does it live – in space, on a planet, on a spaceship? Walking, swimming, flying? Tell us everything about it.

Can't wait to read all the fascinating stories.



