

# Deep Sky Objects

Objects other than the Sun, Moon and the “five” planets that are visible in the night sky

Name	Designation	Look for in the south (Equatorial Region)	Magnitude	Constellation
<b>Beehive Cluster</b>	M44	Loose open cluster of 50 stars near the center of Cancer – On the line between Pollux and Regulus – ¼ of the way from the midpoint of Castor and Regulus to Procyon.	3.7	Cancer
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M67	“Cloud” near the bottom of Cancer – Middle of the Regulus, Castor and Procyon triangle side (Procyon - Regulus).	7.5	Cancer
<b>Spiral Galaxy</b>	C48 (NGC 2775)	Spiral galaxy below the right part of the upside down Y – toward Hydra.	10.1	Cancer
<b>Ghost of Jupiter</b>	C59 (NGC 3242)	Planetary nebula in Hydra near Crater.	7.7	Hydra
<b>Antennae Galaxies</b>	C60/61 (NGC 4038/4039)	Spiral galaxies in between Corvus and Crater.	10.3	Corvus
<b>Algieba</b>	γ Leonis	Double star (yellow and orange) at the left curve of the sickle– two stars up from Regulus – next brightest after Regulus.	2.6 & 3.8	Leo
<b>Leo Triplet</b>	M65 & M66 (NGC 3628)	Two galaxies between Chort (lower inner star of Leo’s triangle) and Iota Leonis below the triangle about the same distance down as Regulus – east of 73 Leonis	10.5 & 10.0	Leo
<b>Needle Galaxy</b>	C38 (NGC 4565)	Spiral galaxy between Boötes to the southwest, Virgo to the southeast, and Leo to the northeast.	9.6	Coma Berenices
<b>Coma Cluster</b>	Melotte 111	Coma Berenices Star Cluster. Wide span (use binoculars). Between Boötes and Leo. Toward Leo from the end of the Big Dipper’s handle (Alkaid and Mizar).	1.8	Coma Berenices
<b>Triangle Galaxies</b>	M98, M99 & M100	Three galaxies that form a triangle northwest of the Virgo cluster and east of Denebola (end of the triangle in Leo).	11.0, 10.5 & 10.5	Virgo
<b>Coma-Virgo Galaxy Cluster</b>	M84 & M86 (and others)	Many galaxies northwest of Virgo (toward Leo): M60 ->M59->M58->M89 then ->M90->M91->M88 or M87->M86->M84.	11.0 & 11.0	Virgo
<b>Sombrero Galaxy</b>	M104	Half way between the bottom of Virgo and the top of Corvus – Northwest of the midpoint between Spica and Gienah (top of the “kite”) in Corvus.	9.5	Virgo
<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M3	One of the brightest clusters in the northern sky - northeast of Arcturus.	TBD	Boötes
<b>Double Star</b>	v Coronae Borealis	Two redish stars in Corona Borealis – half way between the crown and the Keystone of Hercules (northwest star of the keystone and northeast star of the crown).	5.0	Corona Borealis
<b>Hercules Cluster</b>	M13	Globular cluster 2/3 of the way from Zeta (south) to Eta Herculis (north) - the west side of the Keystone in Hercules, toward Arcturus.	5.8	Hercules
<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M92	Half way between the foot of Hercules (Iota) and Pi Herculis (northeast corner of the Keystone) toward the head of Draco - 1/3 of the way from Pi Hercules toward Eta Hercules (northwest) on the north side of the Keystone.	7.5	Hercules
<b>Ras Algethi</b>	α Herculis	Double star (orange and white) west of the northern “point” in Ophiuchus – Top of Hercules’ western arm (red and green?).	3.0 & 5.4	Hercules
<b>Planetary Nebula</b>	NGC 6210	Small and bright planetary nebula between Hercules’ arms (roughly 1/3 of the way from beta to delta Hercules).	8.8	Hercules

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<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M5	Globular cluster in Serpens Caput (between Ophiuchus and Bootes). Half way between Antares and Arcturus.	5.0	Serpens
<b>Globular Clusters</b>	M10 & M12	Globular clusters in Ophiuchus. M10 2/3 from Rasalhagus (top alpha ophiuci) to zeta ophiuci (midpoint of “house” base). M12 ½ between M10 and Marfik (right side of the “house”).	6.6	Ophiuchus
<b>Planetary Nebula</b>	NGC 6572	Green planetary Nebula in Ophiuchus.	8.1	Ophiuchus
<b>Graffias</b>	β Sornii	Double star (yellow and blue) - Left most of the three stars that make up the head of Scorpius.	2.9 & 5.1	Scorpius
<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M80	Globular cluster above Antares and toward the head of Scorpius.	8.5	Scorpius
<b>Cat’s Eye Cluster</b>	M4	Globular cluster just below Antares in Scorpius.	7.5	Scorpius
<b>Ptolemy Cluster</b>	M7	Open cluster of 20 spread out stars northeast of Shaula (end of the tail of Scorpius).	3.5	Scorpius
<b>Butterfly Cluster</b>	M6	Open cluster just above the Ptolemy cluster (M7). Northeast of Shaula (tail of Scorpius).	4.5	Scorpius
<b>Lagoon Nebula</b>	M8 (NGC 6530)	Nebula with an open cluster of 24 stars northeast of the teapot’s lid (Kaus Borealis) in Sagittarius, near M20.	6.0	Sagittarius
<b>Trifid Nebula</b>	M20	Northeast of the teapot’s lid (Kaus Borealis) in Sagittarius, near M8.	6.2	Sagittarius
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M21	Open cluster of 50 stars near M20 in Sagittarius.	7.0	Sagittarius
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M23	Open cluster of 100 stars above the Teapot lid.	6.0	Sagittarius
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M25	Loose open cluster of 100 stars above the Teapot lid.	4.9	Sagittarius
<b>Sagittarius Cluster</b>	M22	Globular Cluster just above and to the northeast of the Teapot lid.	5.1	Sagittarius
<b>Swan Nebula</b>	M17	Nebula above the Teapot lid .	6.0	Sagittarius
<b>Eagle Nebula</b>	M16	Above the Teapot lid (a bit farther than M17). Contains the “Pillars of Creation.”	6.5	Sagittarius
<b>Wild Duck Cluster</b>	M11	Open cluster of 1,500 stars below Aquila	7.0	Sagittarius
<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M54	Globular Cluster ¼ of the way from Ascella (left) to Kraus Australis (right) along the teapot base. Looks like a out of focus star.	8.5	Sagittarius
<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M70	Globular Cluster ½ way between Ascella (left) to Kraus Australis (right) along the teapot base.	9.0	Sagittarius
<b>Double-Double</b>	ε Lyrae	A quadruple star system Epsilon-1 and Epsilon-2 northeast of Vega.	5 to 6	Lyra
<b>Ring Nebula</b>	M57	Planetary nebula between the southern two stars (delta/Sulafat and beta/Sheliak) of the rectangle in Lyra.	8.8	Lyra
<b>Albireo</b>	β Cygni	Double star (yellow and blue) at the head of Cygnus – In the middle of the summer triangle.	3.2 & 5.4	Cygnus
<b>North America Nebula</b>	NGC 7000	Wide nebula 2° x 1½° - 3° east (below) Deneb in Cygnus. Use a Nebula filter if you have trouble seeing it. Look for the Cygnus Wall on the “Baja Peninsula.”	4.0	Cygnus
<b>Pelican Nebula</b>	IC 5070	Smaller Nebula between the North American Nebula and Deneb.	8.0	Cygnus

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<b>Veil Nebulae</b>	C33 (NGC 6960) & C34 (NGC 6992)	Eastern and Western Veil Nebulae. Part of the Cygnus loop of nebulae just in front of the right wing of Cygnus.	7.5	Cygnus
<b>Pickering's Triangle</b>		Pickering's Trangular Wisp within the Veil Nebula between the eastern and western Veil Nebulae.	tbd	Cygnus
<b>Crescent Nebula</b>	NGC 6888	Emission nebula along the body of cygnus between Sadr and Alberio.	7.4	Cygnus
<b>Blinking Nebula</b>	C15 (NGC 6826)	Blinking planetary nebula.	8.8	Cygnus
<b>Cocoon Nebula</b>	C19 (IC 5146)	Emission nebula on the swan's body toward Deneb from Sadr.	7.2	Cygnus
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M39	Open cluster of 30-40 stars - Go from Sadr (star in Cygnus where the wing cross the body) to Deneb and continue a bit more than the same distance and just to the east.	5.5	Cygnus
<b>Dumbbell Nebula</b>	M27	Planetary nebula just north of Gamma Sagittae (the point of the arrow).	7.5	Sagitta
<b>Double Star</b>	$\gamma$ Delphini	Double star (orange/yellow & greenish/blue) in Delphinus (the nose of the dolphin).	4.5 & 5.5	Delphinus
<b>Globular Cluster</b>	M15	Globular cluster of 2 million stars just off the the nose of Pegasus.	7.5	Pegasus
<b>Blue Snowman</b>	NGC 7662	Planetary nebula above Pegasus toward Cassiopeia.	8.3	Pegasus
<b>Deer Lick Group</b>	C30 (NGC 7331)	Galaxies near the front legs of Pegasus.	9.5	Pegasus
<b>Little Sombreo</b>	C43 (NGC 7814)	Spiral galaxy near what would be the tail of Pegasus.	10.6	Pegasus
<b>Propeller Galaxy</b>	C44 (NGC 7479)	Spiral galaxy near the beginning of the front legs fo Pegasus.	10.9	Pegasus
<b>Helix Nebula</b>	C63 (NGC 7293)	Colorful planetary nebula well below the “sqwiggly line” in Aquarius toward Fomalhaut.	7.3	Aquarius
<b>Saturn Nebula</b>	C55 (NGC 7009)	Saturn planetary nebula in Aquarius toward and above Capricornus.	8.0	Aquarius
<b>Sculptor Galaxy</b>	NGC 253	Large spiral galaxy low on the horizon in Sculptor, well below Aquarius and near Fomalhaut	7.2	Sculptor
<b>Phantom Galaxy</b>	M74	Spiral galaxy toward the triangle in Pisces.	9.4	Pisces
<b>Andromeda Galaxy</b>	M31 (M32, M110)	Galaxy 3° across - From the upper left corner of Pegasus, count two stars out and then two stars up (Mirach and Mu Andromedae) 1° west of Nu Andromedae.	3.4 (10.0 & 10.0)	Andromeda
<b>Triangulum Galaxy</b>	M33	Spiral Galaxy seen face on in Triangulum. Down from Mirach in the opposite direction of the Andromedea Galaxy and about the same distance.	5.7	Andromeda
<b>Sliver Sliver</b>	C23 (NGC 891)	Silver Silver spirial galaxy just off the far tip of Andromeda.		Andromeda
<b>Almach</b>	$\gamma$ Andromedae	Double star (red & greenish blue) in Andromeda. Three stars out from the upper left corner of Pegasus.	2.1	Andromeda
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M34	Open star cluster of with 60 stars above Algol (bright star in the arm of Perseus).	6.0	Perseus
<b>Algol</b>	$\beta$ Persei	The Demon star – Eclipsing variable stars on the right arm of Perseus.	2.1 to 3.4	Perseus
<b>Double Cluster</b>	C14 (NGC 869/884)	Double cluster just above and to the right of the point of Perseus' head.	4.3	Perseus
<b>Little Dumbbell</b>	M76	Smaller version of the Dumbbell nebula between Cassiopeia and the tip of Andromeda.	10.1	Perseus
<b>Pleiades</b>	M45	Open star cluster (“Seven Sisters” or “Subaru”) - fuzzy patch just above Taurus.	1.6	Taurus
<b>Haydes</b>	C41	Wide star cluster of over a 100 stars in the “V” of Taurus. Best with binoculars.	3.4	Taurus

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<b>Crab Nebula</b>	M1	1° northwest above the lower horn (zeta Tauri - not Alnath) of Taurus.	9.0	Taurus
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M36	Open cluster of 60-70 stars 1/3 of the way from Alnath to Menkalinan (star to the east of Capella) in Auriga.	6.5	Auriga
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M37	Open cluster with 100s of stars just outside the midpoint between Alnath and the 5 <sup>th</sup> star that makes up the Pentagon in Auriga.	6.0	Auriga
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M38	Open cluster in Auriga – 1/3 to 1/2 of the way between Alnath and Capella.	7.0	Auriga
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M35	Open cluster just north of the feet of Castor in Gemini – 1/4 of the way on the line from the lower horn (zeta Tauri - not Alnath) of Taurus toward Castor.	5.5	Auriga
<b>Flame Nebula</b>	NGC 2024	Emission nebula just outside of Alnitak in Orion’s belt.	7.3	Orion
<b>Horsehead Nebula</b>	IC 434	Just below Alnitak in Orion’s belt. Blocking light from IC 434.	7.3	Orion
<b>Orion Nebula</b>	M42 (M43)	Diffuse bright nebula. Middle object in Orion’s Sword. M43 is north of M42.	4.0 (7.0)	Orion
<b>Trapezium</b>	Theta <sup>1</sup> ABCD Orionis	Four stars at the center of the Orion Nebula that form a trapezoid – Three more fainter stars can be found at higher magnification.	5.1 to 8.1	Orion
<b>Star System</b>	σ Orionis	Four stars below Alnitak (first belt star) – 1/4 of the way to the sword.	3.8 to 10.0	Orion
<b>Rosette Nebula</b>	C49 (NGC 2237)	Emission nebula containing the open cluster NGC 2239. Offset from the line between Gemini & Orion.	5.5	Monoceros
<b>Clown Face</b>	C39 (NGC 2392)	Clown face nebula just outside the waste of the twin Pollux.	9.1	Gemini
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M41	Open cluster of 100 stars with a reddish star in the middle - 4° south of Sirius in Canis Major – 1/3 of the way south along the dog’s body, just west of pi Canis Majoris.	4.5	Canis Major
<b>Open Cluster &amp; Double Star</b>	C64 (NGC 2362) & Herschel 3934	Above and to the left of Wezen – centered by Tau Canis Majoris. “The winter Albireo” - red and yellow double star just north of NGC2362.	TBD & 4.8/6.8	Canis Major
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M93	Graining open cluster out at the end of the tail of Canis Major – Near Xi Puppis (2 <sup>nd</sup> to last star in the tail).	6.5	Canis Major
<b>Open Clusters</b>	M46 & M47	M47 star cluster of 50 star, M46 unimpressive star cluster that looks like a hazy cloud – Sirius to Mullphen (right ear), then 1 1/2 times farther and arc down.	6.5 & 4.5	Canis Major
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M93	Open cluster of 20 stars in Puppis (the tail of Canis Major).	6.2	Canis Major
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M48	Open cluster in Hydra – Line from Gomeisa to Procyon (two brightest stars in Canis Minor) – at twice the distance, find eqilateral triangle of stars – the cluster is just beyond.	5.5	Canis Major

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Name	Designation	Look for in the north (Polar Region)	Magnitude	Constellation
<b>Mizar and Alcor</b>	ζ (Zeta) Ursae Majoris	Double stars in the middle of the Big Dipper’s handle - Mizar itself is a double star.	2.2 & 4.0	Ursa Major
<b>Pinwheel Galaxy</b>	M101	Above the mid-point of the outer two stars of the Big Dipper’s handle (Alkaid and Mizar).	7.9	Ursa Major
<b>Whirlpool Galaxy</b>	M51	3.5° below Alkaid (the end of the Big Dipper’s handle).	8.4	Ursa Major
<b>Bode’s Galaxy &amp; Cigar Galaxy</b>	M81 & M82	Bright pair of galaxies. Follow the lower inner star (Phecda) of the Big Dipper’s bowl to the upper outer star (Dubhe) and continue about the same distance (about 10.5°).	6.9 & 9.5	Ursa Major
<b>Owl Nebula</b>	M97	Planetary nebula just below and inside the lower outer star (Merak) of the Big Dipper’s bowl.	9.9	Ursa Major
<b>Galaxy</b>	M108	Next to M97.	11.0	Ursa Major
<b>Galaxy</b>	M109	Just outside the lower inner star of the Big Dipper’s bowl (Phecda).	11.0	Ursa Major
<b>The North Star</b>	Polaris	Yellow and blue double star at the end of the Little Dipper’s handle.	2.1 & 9.0	Ursa Minor
<b>Spindle Galaxy</b>	M102 (NGC 5866)	Extremely small Lenticular galaxy near the tail of Draco.	9.9	Draco
<b>Splinter Galaxy</b>	NGC 5907	Knife Edge galaxy in Draco.	tbd	Draco
<b>Cat’s Eye</b>	C6 (NGC 6543)	Cat’s eye planetary nebula in the middle of Draco between the neck and body.	8.1	Draco
<b>Delta Cephei</b>	δ Cephei	Eclipsing binary start.	3.5 to 4.4	Cepheus
<b>Herschel’s Garnet Star</b>	μ Cephei	One of the reddest stars. Found outside the midpoint of the bottom of the Cepheus “house” (line between Zeta and Alpha Cephei).	3.4 to 4.5	Cepheus
<b>Scorpion Cluster</b>	M52	Open cluster between Caph (right upper end star of the Cassiopeia W) and midpoint of the side of the Cepheus “house”.	8.0	Cepheus
<b>Firework Galaxy</b>	C12 (NGC 6946)	Spiral galaxy near the celestial pole.	15.0	Cepheus
<b>Iris Nebula</b>	C4 (NGC 7023)	Reflection nebula off to the right of the house’s base.	6.8	Cepheus
<b>Bubble Nebula</b>	C11 (NGC 7635)	Emission nebula equal distance from the right W. Near M52.	10.0	Cassiopeia
<b>Owl Cluster</b>	C13 (NGC 457)	ET cluster below the lower left star of the Cassiopeia W near Phi Cassiopeiae.	6.4	Cassiopeia
<b>Open Cluster</b>	NGC 7789	Open Cluster with 50-200 stars off to the right of the upper right star of Cassiopeia W near Rho Cassiopeiae.	6.7	Cassiopeia
<b>Open Cluster</b>	M103	Open Cluster of 60 stars 1° below left bottom star of the Cassiopeia W (Ruchbah).	7.0	Cassiopeia

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Object	Color	Description
Galaxy	Red	An island of stars such as the Milky Way
Globular Cluster	Green	A cluster of thousands of older stars within the Milky Way
Open Cluster	Blue	A cluster of a few hundred newer stars within the Milky Way
(Double) Star	Black	Stellar pair – two stars that are gravitationally attached to each other
Nebula	Purple	A cloud of hydrogen gas and dust. Area where new stars are forming.
Planetary Nebula	Orange	The remains of a collapsed star
Super Nova Remnant	Brown	The remains of a large star that exploded

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## **Description of night sky objects, what you can reasonably see and how to find them**

1. Guy Consolmagno and Dan M. Davis. *Turn Left at Orion – A hundred Nightly Sky Objects to See in and Small Telescope and How to Find them*. Third Edition. Cambridge University Press 2000 ISBN 978-0-521-78190-9.  
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2. Guy Consolmagno and Dan M. Davis. *Turn Left at Orion – A hundred Nightly Sky Objects to See in and Small Telescope and How to Find them*. Fourth Edition. Cambridge University Press 2011.  
[http://books.google.com/books?id=h3712RgWkOYC&source=gbs\\_book\\_other\\_versions](http://books.google.com/books?id=h3712RgWkOYC&source=gbs_book_other_versions)
3. Guy Consolmagno and Dan M. Davis. *Turn Left At Orion: Hundreds of Night Sky Objects to See in a Home Telescope – and How to Find Them*. 5th Edition. Cambridge University Press. 2018. <https://www.amazon.com/Turn-Left-Orion-Hundreds-Telescope/dp/1108457568> & [https://www.cambridge.org/turnleft/whats\\_up\\_tonight](https://www.cambridge.org/turnleft/whats_up_tonight)
4. Philip S. Harrington. *Star Watch – The Amateur Astronomer’s Guide to Finding, Observing and Learning about Over 125 Celestial Objects*. John Wiley & Sons 2003 ISBN 0-471-41804-8. <http://books.google.com/books?id=gRpOQxHkdQ8C>
5. Mike Lynch. *Carolina Star Watch*. Voyageur Press 2007.
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## **More Detailed Star Maps**

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2. *Atlas of the Stars*. Astronomy Magazine Kalmbach Publishing Co. 2010. Digital version.  
[http://www.astronomy.com/en/Magazine/Special%20Issues/2008/10/~/link.aspx?\\_id=ADB4489FE5C94B97B51899FBC1AF644B&\\_z=z](http://www.astronomy.com/en/Magazine/Special%20Issues/2008/10/~/link.aspx?_id=ADB4489FE5C94B97B51899FBC1AF644B&_z=z)

## **Messier Objects**

1. “The Messier Catalog.” SEDS. <http://seds.org/messier/>
2. “Messier Objects.” *Astronomy Picture of the Day Index* NASA. <http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/messier.html>
3. New@Sky. <http://news.sky-map.org/group?id=15>
4. John Small. “Telrad Charts for Messier Objects.” [http://www.atmob.org/library/member/skymaps\\_jsmall.html](http://www.atmob.org/library/member/skymaps_jsmall.html)
5. Wikipedia. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Messier\\_objects](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Messier_objects)