

Winter Library Telescope Astro Guide

Get the most out of your time with your telescope by reading this page and using attached maps. In the winter these constellations and objects are visible in the evenings. Study maps before dark and try to memorize the Constellation and bright star names.

View/find as many of the objects at the bottom of the page and check them off.

Winter Hexagon

Start by finding Orion (three belt stars in the south). Trace it out noting belt, sword, Rigel & Betelgeuse. Now using Telescope find M42 in the sword.

Use Orion's belt stars to find Sirius in Canis Major, the brightest Star. Look at M41 with telescope.

Now use Orion's belt again to find Aldebaran in Taurus the Bull. You can see the Pleiades without your telescope but with your scope you can see many more stars. Beautiful Blue White Stars.

Above Orion is Gemini the twins. Note Castor and Pollux and find M35 with your scope at their feet.

Above Taurus is Auriga, shaped like a Pentagon. Look at yellow Capella and view M36, M37, and M38 with your telescope.

Circumpolar (Northern Sky)

Use a compass or your phone to find north. Polaris should be star closest to north about 35 degrees above the Horizon. In winter evenings note distinctive W or M shape high in the sky. This is Cassiopeia, the Queen.

Trace out Cassiopeia. Use your scope on M103 and the Double Cluster. Double Cluster is very nice through this size scope.

Cepheus, much dimmer is to left of Cassiopeia. Mu (μ) is a very red star through your scope. Delta is a pretty double blue and yellow.

Record additional objects / constellations viewed in blank spaces.

Astro Scavenger Hunt	* telescope	
Orion (the Hunter)		Gemini (The Twins)
Betelgeuse (Red Star)		Castor & Pollux
Rigel (Blue White Star)		*M35 (Open Cluster)
* M42 (Great Orion Nebula)		Auriga (The Charioteer)
Canis Major (Big Dog)		Capella (Yellow Star)
Sirius (Dog Star-Brightest Star)		Cassiopeia (The Queen)
* M41 (Open cluster)		*Double Cluster
Taurus (The Bull)		Cepheus (The King)
Aldebaran (Red Star)		*Mu (μ) Cepheus (Red Star)
* Pleiades (Seven Sisters)		* Delta Cepheus (δ)

Attend star parties, lectures, join a club. www.caasastro.org

You can print off a complete sky guide and find a lot more information on the Library Telescope site at www.ltp.caasastro.org

Winter Hexagon



