

10 Best Things To See In The Spring Night Sky



Messier 44

M44 has been known since antiquity and is visible to the naked eye under clear, dark skies. It's magnitude is greater than almost all of the stars within the constellation that hosts it.



Messier 81 & Messier 82

M81, a spiral galaxy, is the brighter and larger of the pair. You'll see it as a small oval with a bright central core.



Algieba

With low powered binoculars, you'll see a bright, golden star with a blue-white companion that appears twice as faint. With a telescope, the bright primary star can be split in half.



Cor Caroli

A magnification of about 30x provides a fine view, with the primary star appearing white and about 3x brighter than it's pale gold companion.



Messier 65 & Messier 66

You should see two faint, misty oval patches. M66 is slightly brighter and more oval, while M65 may appear more elongated and spindle shaped.



Y Canum Venaticorum

One of the reddest stars known, it has been variously described as deep orange and blood red. It's a subjective experience that impacts different observers in different ways.



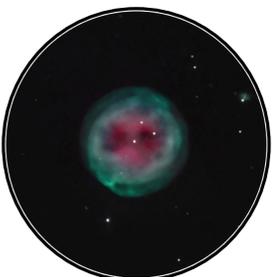
Mizar & Alcor

The brighter, primary star shines with a brilliant, white light. While its companion appears about twice as faint and slightly bluish.



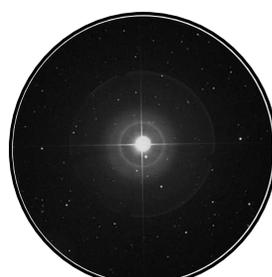
Messier 3

At about 35x, you'll notice a slightly oval, misty grey patch with a bright core. This is one cluster where increasing the magnification will definitely reap rewards.



Messier 97

Found close to Merak, it's quite faint and just beyond the reach of most binoculars. If you possess the skies and the equipment required, you could get lucky and spot this target.



Coma Berenices

At a distance of 280 light-years, this is one of the closest star clusters. In comparison, M44 is some 577 light-years away, while M97 is over 2,000.



HIGH POINT
S C I E N T I F I C