

Showpiece List

A great way to enjoy the unique beauty of the dark skies at Oregon Star Party (OSP) is to view bright deep sky objects, colorful double stars, and planets through a telescope. The objects listed are easily visible in most telescopes, and many can also be seen in binoculars. They are among the brightest showpiece objects in the sky.

While you encouraged to try them all - to receive the Showpiece List observer pin you must observe and record at least 16 of the objects listed below while you are here at OSP. As an added reference each object's page number in the popular Sky and Telescope Pocket Sky Atlas (PSA) is listed as well (or where it would be, if not actually included – like planets).

Most of the objects listed below are visible between sunset and midnight during the star party. All are visible before astronomical dawn. The Showpiece List award is intended for visual observing. Go-to telescopes and image enhancers (photography) are not permitted for the Showpiece List award. You may get assistance in locating objects on star charts or in the sky, but you must locate them yourself with your telescope. Looking through a telescope, in which someone else has sighted the object for you, is not acceptable. Object sketches are a bonus but they are not necessary if you provide a good description of each object.

When finished, bring your record of observations to the Observing Program table next to the Information Tent to receive your pin. *Please check the information tent for updates on when the Observing Program table will be staffed, and where it is going to be for the next session. Typically it will be manned later in the afternoon.*

6/23/2024 v1.0

2024 Oregon Star Party Showpiece Observing List

#	Type	Object	Con	RA	Dec	Mag	Size/ PSA	Split	Alternate Name/Comments
1	DS	Albireo	Cyg	19h 30' 43.2"	27° 57' 34.0"	3.4, 4.7	34.7"	62	Beta Cygni, distinct color contrast
2	DS	Rasalgethi	Her	17h 14' 38.8"	14° 23' 25.0"	3.5/5.4	4.8"	54	Alpha Herculis
3	DS	Double-Double	Lyr	18h 44' 22.7"	39° 36' 47.0"	5.6/5.3	210" 2.1" 2.3"	63	Epsilon Lyrae e1-e2 pair to pair e1 pair e2 pair Pair of tight-split pairs.
4	DS	Polaris	UMi	02h 31' 54.6"	89° 15' 50.0"	2.1/9.1	18.6"	1	Alpha Ursae Minoris, North Star
5	DS	Almach	And	02h 03' 54.0"	42° 19' 45.0"	2.3, 5	9.7"	2	Gamma Andromedae
6	EN	M 17	Sgr	18h 20' 48.0"	-16° 11' 00.0"	6	46'	67	Omega Nebula, Swan Nebula
7	EN	M 20	Sgr	18h 02' 36.0"	-23° 02' 00.0"	6.3	29'	69	Triffid Nebula
8	EN	M 8	Sgr	18h 03' 48.0"	-24° 23' 00.0"	6	90'	67	Lagoon Nebula
9	GC	M 30	Cap	21h 40' 22.1"	-23° 10' 47.0"	7.8	12'	77	Jellyfish Cluster
10	GC	M 13	Her	16h 41' 41.2"	36° 27' 35.0"	6.5	20'	52	Hercules Cluster
11	GC	M 55	Sgr	19h 39' 59.7"	-30° 57' 53.0"	7	19'	66	Specter Cluster
12	GX	M 31/M 32/M 110	And	00h 42' 44.3"	41° 16' 08.0"	4.3	3°	3	Andromeda Galaxy and Satellite Galaxies
13	GX	M 51	CVn	13h 29' 52.7"	47° 11' 43.0"	8.6	14'	43	Whirlpool Galaxy
14	GX	M 33	Tri	01h 33' 50.9"	30° 39' 35.0"	6.4	1°	2	Triangulum Galaxy, challenge
15	GX	M 101	UMa	14h 03' 12.6"	54° 20' 55.0"	8.4	24'	42	Pinwheel Galaxy, challenge
16	GX	M 81	UMa	09h 55' 33.2"	69° 03' 55.0"	7.8	22'	31	Bode's Galaxy
17	GX	M 82	UMa	09h 55' 52.3"	69° 40' 47.0"	8.9	11	31	Cigar Galaxy
18	OC	M 52	Cas	23h 24' 48.0"	61° 35' 00.0"	7.6	15'	71	Scorpion Cluster
19	OC	NGC 884 & NGC 869	Per	02h 19' 00.0"	57° 07' 00.0"	5.7	18'	2	Double Cluster (specs for NGC 869)
20	OC	M 7	Sco	17h 53' 51.0"	-34° 47' 00.0"	3.5	1.3°	67	Ptolemy's Cluster
21	OC	M 11	Sct	18h 51' 05.0"	-06° 16' 00.0"	6.3	32'	67	Wild Duck Cluster
22	P	Saturn	Aqr	23h 19' 40.7"	-06° 38' 06.0"	0.8	19"	76	Look for rings and a few of the brighter moons.
23	P	Jupiter	Tau	04h 52' 56.1"	21° 50' 40.0"	-2.1	36"	14	Up to four moons may be visible and bands on the planet Early morning - moving out of view during OSP next year.
24	PN	M 57	Lyr	18h 53' 35.7"	33° 01' 48.0"	8.8	1.4'	63	Ring Nebula
25	PN	M 27	Vul	19h 59' 36.2"	22° 43' 08.0"	7.1	8'	64	Dumbell Nebula

Key:			
P	Planet	DP	Dwarf Planet
GX	Galaxy	SC	Star Cloud
GC	Globular Cluster	S	Star
OC	Open Cluster	DS	Double Star
PN	Planetary Nebula	MS	Multiple Star
EN	Emission Nebula	CS	Carbon Star
SN	Supernova Remnant	VS	Variable Star
DN	Dark Nebula	A	Asteroid
C	Comet	Ast	Asterism

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 Locations J2000.0 + mag & size
 from Starry Night 8.1.0.2050
 8/2/2024 12:00:00 AM
 (except as noted)