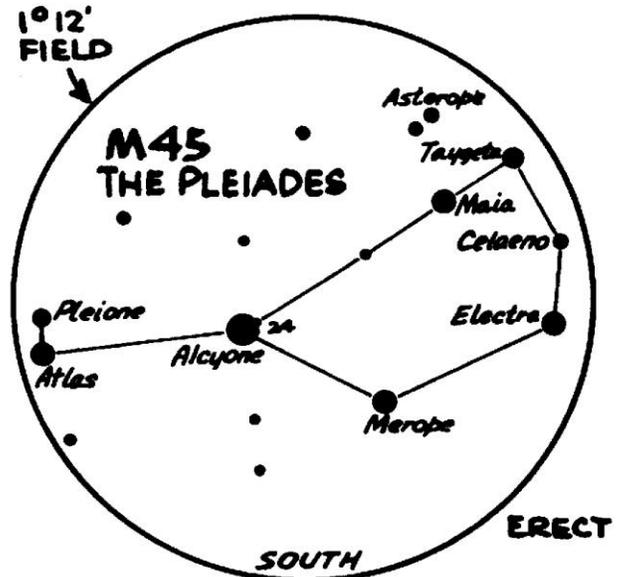


The Pleiades or Seven Sisters

The Pleiades: one of the closest open (or galactic) star clusters

- 440 light years away
- 35 light years across
- 20 million years old (very young!)
- Pleiades star Alcyone is 1,000 times more luminous than our Sun

>The numbers, to the right of the star names, represent their visual magnitudes. The lower the number, the brighter the star appears. Alcyone is the brightest Pleiad, and Asterope is the faintest.



The PLEIADES - WELL-KNOWN OPEN CLUSTER MAKES A PRETTY PICTURE at 50x

| THE PLEIADES (PLEE-uh-deez) | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----|
| SEVEN SISTERS | ALCYONE...al-SIGH-oh-nee | 3.0 |
| | ASTEROPE...as-TAIR-oh-pee | 5.9 |
| | CELAENO...seh-LEE-noe | 5.4 |
| | ELECTRA...eh-LEK-tra | 3.8 |
| | MAIA.....MY-uh | 4.0 |
| | MEROPE...MARE-oh-pee | 4.3 |
| | TAYGETA...tah-W-ah-tah | 4.4 |
| | PLEIONE...plee-OH-nee | 5.1 |
| | ATLAS.....AT-Lus | 3.8 |
| PLEIONE IS MAMA AND ATLAS IS PAPA. STAR #24 (MAG 8) MAKES A WIDE DOUBLE WITH ALCYONE AT 117 SECONDS | | |