

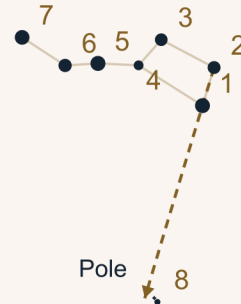
Find your way around the sky

Named star positions, clear pointers, three familiar patterns.

Plough to Polaris

Start at Merak (2).
Go through Dubhe (1),
then onwards, near Polaris (8).

- 1 Dubhe
- 2 Merak
- 3 Phecda
- 4 Megrez
- 5 Alioth
- 6 Mizar
- 7 Alkaid
- 8 Polaris

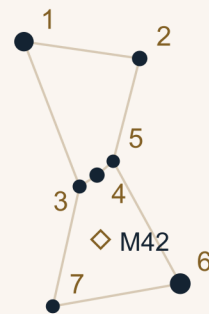


Polar stereographic • J2000 pole • 12h RA upwards; the sky rotates

Recognise Orion

Find the belt: 3, 4 and 5.
Betelgeuse and Rigel mark
two opposite corners.

- 1 Betelgeuse
- 2 Bellatrix
- 3 Alnitak
- 4 Anilam
- 5 Mintaka
- 6 Rigel
- 7 Saiph



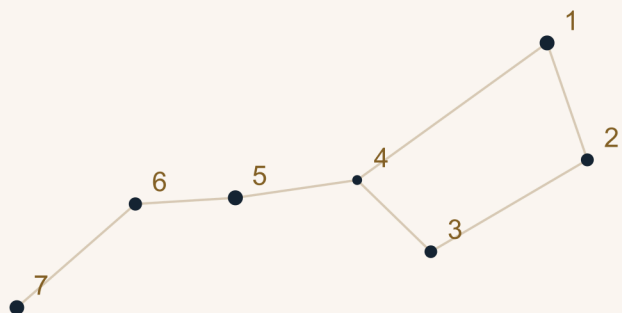
◊ M42: Orion Nebula

Gnomonic • J2000 • North up / East left • M42 diamond marks its region

The seven Plough stars

Bowl: 1, 2, 3 and 4.
Handle: 4, 5, 6 and 7.
Megrez (4) is the faintest.

- 1 Dubhe
- 2 Merak
- 3 Phecda
- 4 Megrez
- 5 Alioth
- 6 Mizar
- 7 Alkaid



Gnomonic • J2000 • North up / East left • Lines are recognition aids

Reference patterns: rotate the page to match the sky, not the horizon.

Symbol sizes aid recognition. Joining lines are not constellation boundaries.

Stars: BSC V/50 • cdsarc.cds.unistra.fr/viz-bin/cat/V/50

M42: SIMBAD • simbad.cds.unistra.fr/simbad/sim-id?Ident=M42