

Charles Messier's Object List by Right Ascension

This list was found by Camille Flammarion within the personal notes of Charles Messier, between his personal copies of [his catalogs](#), and detailed notes on his observations. This list was very probably created somewhere after August 31, 1780, when Messier determined positions for M69 and M70, but before October 4, 1780 when he determined M71.

We give a translation here which is as close as possible to Messier's original.

	Nos.	New in Cat.	Nos. by order	Right Ascension in Times H. M. S.	Declination in Degrees D. M. S.	D. M. S.
	31	1	0 29 46	7 26 32	39 9 32 N	Andromeda Nebula.
	32	2	0 29 50	7 27 32	38 45 34 N	Small Neb. below And Nebula.
	33	3	1 40 37	20 9 17	29 32 25 N	Neb. near the N. Fish.
	34	4	2 27 27	36 51 37	41 39 32 N	Cluster of St. near the Head of the Medusa.
	45	5	3 33 48	53 27 4	23 22 41 N	Cluster. Pleiades.
	38	6	5 12 41	78 10 12	36 11 51 N	Cluster in the Charioteer [Auriga].
	1	7	5 20 2	80 0 33	21 45 27 N	Neb. in the horn of the Bull.
	36	8	5 20 47	80 11 42	34 8 6 N	Cluster in the Charioteer.
	42	9	5 23 59	80 59 40	5 34 6 S	Neb. in the sword of Orion.
	43	10	5 24 12	81 3 0	5 26 37 S	Small Neb. above that in the sword of Orion.
	37	11	5 37 1	84 15 12	32 11 51 N	Cluster in the Charioteer.
[30]	35	12	5 54 41	88 40 9	24 33 30 N	Cluster near the foot of Castor.
	41	13	6 35 53	98 58 12	20 33 0 S	Cluster near Sirius.
	50	14	6 51 50	102 57 28	7 57 42 S	Cluster near the Unicorn [Monoceros]
	46	15	7 31 11	112 47 42	14 19 7 S	Cluster near the head of the Great Dog.
	47	16	7 44 16	116 3 58	14 50 8 S	Cluster near the preceding.
	48	17	8 2 24	120 36 0	1 16 42 S	Cluster near the tail of the Unicorn.
	67	18	8 36 28	129 6 57	12 36 38 N	Cluster in Cancer.
	65	19	11 7 24	166 50 54	14 16 8 N	Neb. in the Lion.
	66	20	11 8 47	167 11 39	14 12 21 N	Neb. in the Lion.

	40	21	12	11	2	182	45	30	59	23	50	N	Two st. [near] tail of the Great Bear.
	49	22	12	17	48	184	26	58	9	16	9	N	Neb. in the Virgin.
	58	23	12	26	30	186	37	23	13	2	42	N	Neb. in the Virgin.
	68	24	12	27	38	186	54	33	25	30	20	S	Neb. near the Raven [Corvus].
	59	25	12	30	47	187	41	38	12	52	36	N	Neb. in the Virgin.
	60	26	12	32	28	188	6	53	12	46	2	N	Neb. in the Virgin.
	64	27	12	45	51	191	27	38	22	52	31	N	Neb. [in the] Hair of Berenice [Coma Berenices].
	63	28	13	4	22	196	5	30	43	12	37	N	Neb. [in the] Hunting Dogs [Canes Venatici]. Méch.
	51	29	13	20	23	200	5	48	48	24	24	N	Neb. [near the] eyes of the Greyhounds [Canes
Venatici].	3	30	13	21	25	202	51	19	29	32	57	N	Neb. near the Hunting Dogs.
	5	31	15	6	36	226	39	4	2	57	16	N	Neb. near Libra.
(2)	44	32	8	27	22	126	50	30	20	31	38	N	Cluster Neb. of Cancer.
	4	33	16	9	8	242	16	56	25	55	40	S	Neb. near Antares.
	13	34	16	33	15	248	16	56	25	55	40	S	Neb. near Antares.
	12	35	16	34	53	248	43	10	1	30	28	S	Neb. in Ophiuchus.
(1)	10	36	16	44	48	251	12	6	3	42	18	S	Neb. in Ophiuchus.
	62	37	16	47	14	251	48	24	29	45	30	S	Neb. in the Scorpion.
(2)	19	38	16	48	7	252	1	45	25	54	46	S	Neb. on parall. of Antares.
(3)	9	39	17	5	22	256	20	36	18	13	26	S	Neb. in Ophiuchus.
	6	40	17	14	42	261	10	39	32	10	34	S	Cluster near the bow of Sagittarius.
(4)	14	41	17	25	14	261	18	29	3	5	45	S	Neb. in Ophiuchus.
	7	42	17	38	2	264	30	24	34	40	34	S	Cluster. near the bow of Sagittarius.
	23	43	17	42	51	265	42	50	18	45	55	S	Cluster. near the bow of Sagittarius.
	20	44	17	48	16	267	4	5	22	59	10	S	Cluster near the Ecliptic.
	8	45	17	49	58	267	29	30	24	21	10	S	Cluster, near the bow of Sagittarius.
	21	46	17	50	7	267	31	35	22	31	25	S	Cluster near the bow of Sagittarius.
	24	47	18	1	44	270	26	0	18	26	0	S	Cluster, near the bow of Sagittarius.
	16	48	18	5	0	271	15	3	13	51	44	S	Cluster, near the Serpent.
	18	49	18	6	16	271	34	3	17	13	14	S	Cluster.
	17	50	18	7	3	271	45	48	16	14	44	S	Train of light, w/o st. [without stars]
	28	51	18	9	58	272	29	30	24	57	11	S	Neb. [in the] bow of Sagittarius.
	69	52	18	16	47	274	11	46	32	31	45	S	Neb. in the Archer [Sagittarius].
	25	53	18	17	40	274	25	0	19	5	0	S	Cluster, near Sagittarius.
	22	54	18	21	55	275	28	39	24	6	11	S	Neb. between the head and the bow of Sagittarius.
	70	55	18	28	53	277	13	16	32	31	7	S	Neb. in the Archer [Sagittarius].
	26	56	18	32	22	278	5	25	9	38	14	S	Cluster near Antinous.

	11	57	18	38	23	279	35	43	6	31	1	S	Cluster near Antinous.
	54	58	18	40	52	280	12	55	30	44	1	S	Neb. in Sagittarius.
	57	59	18	45	21	281	20	8	32	46	3	N	Neb. in Lyra, between Gamma and Beta.
(2)	61	60	12	10	44	182	42	5	5	42	5	N	Neb. in Virgo.
	56	61	19	8	0	287	0	1	29	48	14	N	Neb. near the Swan [Cygnus].
	55	62	19	26	2	291	30	26	31	26	27	S	Neb. near Sagittarius.
(2)	53	63	13	2	2	195	30	26	19	22	44	N	Neb. in Coma Berenices.
	27	64	19	49	27	297	21	41	22	4	0	N	Neb. in the Fox.
	29	65	20	15	38	303	54	29	37	11	57	N	Cluster in the Swan.
	15	66	21	18	41	319	40	19	10	40	3	N	Neb. near the head of Pegasus.
	2	67	21	21	8	320	17	0	1	47	0	S	Neb. in the head of Aquarius.
	39	68	21	23	49	320	57	10	47	25	0	N	Cluster, near the Swan.
	30	69	21	27	5	321	46	18	24	19	4	S	Neb. in the tail of Capricorn.
	52	70	23	14	38	348	39	27	60	22	12	N	Cluster in Cassiopeia.
	71												
	72												
	73												

Notes by Messier:

- (1) ... 3.7.1780
- (2) Note. The numbers 32, 60 and 63 to be replaced in their order. [Very probably because the "100" digit in the RA in degrees, for which this table was apparently sorted, was misprinted first: 32 = M44, 226 instead of 126, 60 = M61, 282 for 182, 63 = M53, 295 for 195.]
- (3) b .. 3.7.1780
- (4) b. ... 3.7.1780

Remark:

- M35 has been misprinted "30" in these notes.