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# List of proper names of stars

This is a **list of proper names of stars**. These are the names of <u>stars</u> that have either been approved by the <u>International Astronomical Union</u> (its <u>Working Group on Star Names</u> has since 2016 been publishing a "List of IAU-approved Star Names", which as of June 2018 included a total of 330 proper names of stars<sup>[1]</sup>) or which have been in somewhat recent usage. See also the lists of stars by constellation, which give variant names, derivations, and magnitudes.

Of the roughly 10,000 stars visible to the <u>naked eye</u>, only a few hundred have been given proper names in the history of astronomy.<sup>[2]</sup> Traditional astronomy tends to group stars into <u>asterisms</u>, and give proper names to those, not to individual stars.

Many star names are in origin descriptive of the part of the asterism they are found in; thus Phecda, a corruption of the Arabic - فخذ الدب- fakhth al-dubb "thigh of the bear". Only a handful of the brightest stars have individual proper names not depending on their asterism; so Sirius "the scorcher", Antares and Canopus (of unknown origin), Alphard "the solitary one", Regulus "kinglet"; and arguably Aldebaran "the follower" (of the Pleiades), Procyon "preceding the dog [Sirius]". The same holds for Chinese astronomy, where most stars are enumerated within their constellation, with a handful of exceptions such as 織女 "weaving girl" (Vega).

In addition to the limited number of traditional star names, there are some coined in modern times, e.g. "Avior" for Epsilon Carinae (1930), and a number of stars named after people (mostly in the 20th century).

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# **IAU Catalog**

In 2016, the <u>International Astronomical Union</u> (IAU) organized a <u>Working Group on Star Names</u> (WGSN)<sup>[3]</sup> to catalog and standardize proper names for stars. The WGSN's first bulletin dated July 2016<sup>[4]</sup> included a table of 125 stars comprising the first two batches of names approved by the WGSN (on 30 June and 20 July 2016) together with names of stars adopted by the IAU Executive Committee Working Group on Public Naming of Planets and Planetary Satellites during the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign<sup>[5]</sup> and recognized by the WGSN. Further batches of names were approved on 21 August, 12 September, 5 October and 6 November 2016. These were listed in a table of 102 stars included in the

WGSN's second bulletin dated November 2016.<sup>[6]</sup> The next additions were done on 1 February 2017 (13 new star names), 30 June 2017 (29), 5 September 2017 (41), 17 November 2017 (3), and on 1 June 2018 (17). All 330 are included in the current List of IAU-approved Star Names, last updated on 1 June 2018.<sup>[1]</sup>

## List

In the table below, unless indicated by a '†', the 'Modern proper name' is that approved by the WGSN and entered in the List of IAU-approved Star Names.<sup>[1]</sup> The WGSN decided to attribute proper names to individual stars rather than entire multiple systems.<sup>[7]</sup> For such names relating to members of multiple star systems, and where a component letter (from e.g. Washington Double Star Catalog) is not explicitly listed, the WGSN says that the name should be understood to be attributed to the brightest component by visual brightness.<sup>[6]</sup>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
<u>Eridanus</u>	<u>θ¹ Eridani A</u>	Acamar	<ul> <li>Originally called آخر النهر ākhir al-nahr in Arabic, meaning "river's end", named because it was the brightest star in the constellation Eridanus (the River). (Before the 16th century, this was the last star in the Eridanus constellation; it was later extended to Achenar, below). [8]:p219</li> <li>"Acamar" was first used in the Alphonsine tables (circa 1252). [8]:p219</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>Also called Al Thalim ("the Ostrich") by fifteenth-century Timurid astronomer Ulugh Beg. [8]:p219</li> <li>Georgius Chrysococca (14th century) called it Aulax in Greek, meaning "the Furrow". [8]:p219</li> </ul>
<u>Eridanus</u>	α Eridani A	Achernar	■ The name was originally Arabic آخر النهر ākhir al-nahr "river's end"
Cassiopeia	η Cassiopeiae <u>A</u>	Achird	Apparently first applied to Eta Cassiopeiae in the Skalnate Pleso Atlas of the Heavens published in 1950, but is not known prior to that. <sup>[9]</sup>
Scorpius	β Scorpii Aa	Acrab	The traditional names of the β Scorpii system included Akrab and Elakrab, derived (like Acrab) from Arabic العقرب al-'aqrab, "the scorpion", and graffias, which is Italian for "claws" and which was also applied to Xi Scorpii.
Crux	<u>α Crucis Aa</u>	Acrux	Acrux is a modern contraction of the Bayer designation, coined in the 19th century, but which entered into common use only by the mid 20th century. <sup>[11]</sup>
Cancer	α Cancri Aa	Acubens	The name was originally Arabic الزبانى <i>al-zubānā</i> , "the claws".

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Leo	ζ Leonis Aa	Adhafera	Also called Aldhafera.  ■ The name is originally from Arabic الضفيرة al-ḍafīrah, "the braid (or curl, or strand) (of the lion's mane)"
Canis Major	<u>ε Canis Majoris</u> <u>A</u>	Adhara	■ The name is originally from Arabic عذارى 'aðārā, "virgins". In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket it is designated أول ألعذاري awwil alaðāriy, translated into Latin as Prima Virginum, "first virgin".
Andromeda	ξ Andromedae	Adhil	The name was originally Arabic الذيل að-ðayl, 'the <u>train</u> ' (lit. 'the tail')
Taurus	ε Tauri Aa1	Ain	<ul> <li>The name is originally from Arabic عين 'ayn, "eye" and was reviewed and adopted by the IAU Executive Committee WG Public Naming of Planets and Planetary Satellites.<sup>[1]</sup></li> <li>The star was given the name Oculus Boreus (Latin for "northern eye") by John Flamsteed.<sup>[12][8]:p391</sup></li> </ul>
Sagittarius	ν¹ Sagittarii A	Ainalrami	
Lyra	η Lyrae Aa	Aladfar	■ The name is originally from Arabic الأظفر al-uẓfur, "the talons (of the swooping eagle)", shared with μ Lyrae (Alathfar).
Andromeda	γ Andromedae	Alamak †	■ The name is originally from Arabic العناق الأرض al-'anāq al-arḍ, "the caracal" (desert lynx). Another Arabic الرجل al-rijl al-musalsalah, "the chained foot". In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket designated بعمس ḥāmis an-na ʿāmah, translated into Latin as Quinta Struthionum, "fifth ostrich".

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Lyra	μ Lyrae	Alathfar †	The name is originally from Arabic الأظفر al-uzfur, "the talons (of the swooping eagle)", shared with η Lyrae ( <i>Aladfar</i> ).
Sagittarius	π Sagittarii A	Albaldah	The name is originally from Arabic بلدة baldah, "town". In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket designated نير nayyir al-baldah, translated into Latin as Lucida Oppidi "brightest of the town".
Aquarius	<u>ε Aquarii</u>	Albali	■ The name is originally from Arabic البالع albāli', "the swallower". In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket designated نير سعد ألبلغ nayyir sa'd al-bula', translated into Latin as Lucida Fortunæ Dissipantis, "the brightest of luck of the swallower".
Cygnus	β¹ Cygni Aa	Albireo	■ The source of the name Albireo is not entirely clear. <sup>[13]</sup> ■ In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket designated منقار ألدجاجة minqār al-dajājah, translated into Latin as Rostrum Gallinæ "the hen's beak".
Corvus	<u>α Corvi</u>	Alchiba	■ From Arabic الخباء al-khibā',  "tent". In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket  designated المنخر ألغراب al- mankhar al-ghurāb, translated into Latin as Rostrum Corvi, "beak of the crow".
<u>Ursa Major</u>	80 Ursae Majoris Ca	Alcor	<ul> <li>From Arabic الخوّار al-khawwār,</li> <li>"the faint one".</li> <li>Known as Arundhati in traditional Indian astronomy.</li> </ul>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
<u>Taurus</u>	η Tauri A	Alcyone	<ul> <li>Member of the Pleiades open star cluster (M45). Alcyone was one of the Pleiades sisters in Greek mythology.</li> </ul>
<u>Taurus</u>	α Tauri	Aldebaran	<ul> <li>The name was originally Arabic لدبران al-dabarān, "the follower (of the Pleiades)".[14]</li> <li>In Indian astronomy known as Rohini "the red one". To Persian astrologers it was known as a Royal star, Tascheter, Watcher of the East.</li> <li>The Romans called this star Palilicium.</li> </ul>
Cepheus	<u>α Cephei</u>	Alderamin	■ From Arabic الذراع اليمين <i>al-ðirā'</i> <i>al-yamīn</i> , "the right arm (of Cepheus)".
Grus	γ Gruis	Aldhanab	The name was originally Arabic الذنب al-ðanab, "the tail (of the constellation of the Southern Fish)"".
Draco	ζ Draconis A	Aldhibah	<ul> <li>■ From Arabic الصّباع al dibā', "the hyenas"", shared with n Draconis.</li> <li>■ The other name of this star is Nodus III (Third Knot, the knot being a loop in the tail of Draco).</li> </ul>
Delphinus	ε Delphini	Aldulfin	
Cepheus	β Cephei Aa	Alfirk	
Capricornus	α² Capricorni A	Algedi	Alternative traditional names of Al Giedi, Secunda Giedi and Algiedi Secunda
Pegasus	γ Pegasi	Algenib	
Leo	γ¹ Leonis	Algieba	
Perseus	β Persei Aa1	Algol	From Arabic رأس الغول <i>ra's al-ghūl</i> , "head of the ogre". In Egyptian, Horus. <sup>[15]</sup>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Perseus	π Persei	_	叠尸 Dié Shī "Piled up Corpses"; Allen (1899) associated the name with Algol, but it properly refers to π Persei, a star within the "Mausoleum" asterism.[16]
Corvus	δ Corvi A	Algorab	The traditional name <i>Algorab</i> is derived from <u>Arabic</u> الغراب al-ghurāb, "the crow"). The WGSN redesignated the star as <i>Algorab</i> in July 2016. <sup>[17]</sup>
Gemini	γ Geminorum Aa	Alhena	Derived from Arabic الهنعة <i>al-han'ah</i> , "the brand" (on the neck of the camel)
Ursa Major	<u>ε Ursae Majoris</u> <u>A</u>	Alioth	
Cygnus	ε Cygni Aa	Aljanah	
Ursa Major	η Ursae Majoris	Alkaid	
Cepheus	ρ² Cephei	Al Kalb al Rai †	
Boötes	μ¹ Boötis Aa	Alkalurops	
Ursa Major	к Ursae Majoris <u>A</u>	Alkaphrah	
Pegasus	<u>υ Pegasi</u>	Alkarab	
Crater	<u>α Crateris</u>	Alkes	
Auriga	ε Aurigae	Almaaz	Traditionally also called Haldus.
Andromeda	<u>γ Andromedae</u> <u>A</u>	Almach	
Leo	к Leonis	Al Minliar al Asad †	
Grus	<u>α Gruis</u>	Alnair	
Sagittarius	γ² Sagittarii	Alnasl	From <u>Arabic</u> النصل <i>al-naṣl</i> , "arrowhead". <sup>[18]</sup>
Orion	ε Orionis	<u>Alnilam</u>	Middle star in the belt of Orion. The traditional name Alnilam derives from Arabic النيلم al-nīlam, related to the word nīlam, "sapphire"; related spellings are Alnihan and Alnitam.[8]:pp314-315

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Orion	ζ Orionis Aa	Alnitak	The traditional name, alternately spelled Al Nitak or Alnitah, is from Arabic النطاق al-niṭāq, "the girdle". [8]:pp314-315
Scorpius	σ Scorpii Aa1	Alniyat	The star <u>Tau Scorpii</u> also bore Alniyat as its traditional name.
Hydra	α Hydrae	Alphard	
Corona Borealis	α Coronae Borealis	Alphecca	The name nayyir al-fakkah المكتّة "bright (star) of the broken (ring of stars)" is found in the Al Achsasi al Mouakket catalogue (c. 1650). [19]  Also known as Gemma, Gnosia (Gnosia Stella Coronae), and Asteroth (or Ashtaroth). As the brightest star in Corona Borealis, it lent its name to Alphekka Meridiana, the brightest in the constellation of Corona Australis.
Andromeda	<u>α Andromedae</u> <u>Aa</u>	Alpheratz	
Pisces	η Piscium	Alpherg	
Draco	μ Draconis A	Alrakis	From <u>Arabic</u> الراقص <i>al-rāqiş</i> , "the dancer"; also spelled Arrakis and Elrakis.
Pisces	α Piscium A	Alrescha	
Draco	HD 161693	Alruba	
Draco	σ Draconis	Alsafi	
Lynx	31 Lyncis	Alsciaukat	
Vela	δ Velorum Aa	Alsephina	
Aquila	β Aquilae A	Alshain	
Capricornus	ν Capricorni A	Alshat	
<u>Aquila</u>	α Aquilae	Altair	From Arabic النسر الطائر (al-nasr) al-ṭā'ir, "the flying (eagle)".  In Chinese, 奉牛星 (Qiān Niú Xīng) or 牛郎星 ( Niú Láng Xīng), "Cow Herder Star" of the Qixi love story.

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
			One of the vertices of the Summer Triangle.
Draco	δ Draconis	Altais	also Aldib
Leo	λ Leonis	Alterf	
Canis Major	η Canis Majoris	Aludra	
Ursa Major	ξ Ursae Majoris Aa	Alula Australis	
Ursa Major	ν Ursae Majoris	Alula Borealis	
Serpens	θ¹ Serpentis A	Alya	
Gemini	ξ Geminorum	Alzirr	alternately spelled Alzir
Aquarius	θ Aquarii	Ancha	
Eridanus	τ² Eridani	Angetenar	<ul> <li>The name is originally from         Arabic عرجة النهر 'arjat al-nahr,         "the bend of the river"</li> </ul>
Phoenix	<u>α Phoenicis</u>	Ankaa	
Vulpecula	<u>α Vulpeculae</u>	Anser	Alternative traditional name is Lucida Anseris.
Scorpius	α Scorpii A	Antares	Ancient Greek, Άντάρης, "against Ares (Mars)". It was known to Persian astrologers as a Royal star: Satevis, Watcher of the West.
Boötes	α Boötis	Arcturus	
Sagittarius	β² Sagittarii	Arkab Posterior	
Sagittarius	β¹ Sagittarii A	Arkab Prior	
Lepus	<u>α Leporis A</u>	Arneb	Traditional name <i>Arneb</i> is from the Arabic أرنب <i>arnab</i> , 'hare' <sup>[8]:p268</sup> ('Lepus' is <u>Latin</u> for <u>hare</u> ).
Sagittarius	ζ Sagittarii A	Ascella	
Cancer	δ Cancri Aa	Asellus Australis	
Cancer	γ Cancri Aa	Asellus Borealis	
Hydra	ε Hydrae	Ashlesha	
Boötes	θ Boötis	Asellus Primus †	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Boötes	ι Boötis	Asellus Secundus †	
Boötes	к Boötis	Asellus Thertius †	
Puppis	ξ Puppis	Asmidiske †	
Carina	ι Carinae	Aspidiske	
Taurus	21 Tauri A	Asterope	Member of the Pleiades open star cluster (M45). Asterope was one o the Pleiades sisters in Greek mythology.
Draco	η Draconis A	Athebyne	
Perseus	o Persei A	Atik	
Taurus	27 Tauri Aa1	Atlas	Member of the <u>Pleiades</u> open star cluster (M45). Atlas was the <u>Titan</u> god of endurance and astronomy <sup>[20]</sup> and the father of the <u>Pleiades</u> sisters in <u>Greek</u> mythology.
Triangulum Australe	α Trianguli Australis	Atria	
Carina	ε Carinae A	Avior	Designated 'Avior' by <u>His</u> Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office for the Royal Air Force in the 1930s. <sup>[21]</sup>
Cygnus	π¹ Cygni	Azelfafage	Variously reported as from Arabic ألطلف ,"al-sulaḥfāh "turtle" السلحفاة al-ṭīlf al-faras, "horse track" or عزلألدجاجة al-'azal al-dajājah, "the tail of the hen" <sup>[8]:pp192-197</sup>
Eridanus	<u>η Eridani</u>	Azha	■ Originally from Arabic اشیانة "nest (of the ostrich)"
Puppis	ξ Puppis	Azmidi	
Ophiuchus	GJ 699	Barnard's Star	Named after the American astronomer E E Barnard, the first to measure its high proper motion
Cetus	ζ Ceti Aa	Baten Kaitos	
Eridanus	υ³ Eridani	Beemim	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Eridanus	o¹ Eridani	Beid	■ The name is originally from Arabic البيض <i>al-bayḍ</i> , "the eggs".
Orion	γ Orionis	Bellatrix	Latin for "female warrior"; applied to this star in the 15th century. [22]
Orion	α Orionis Aa	Betelgeuse	Derived from Arabic إبط الجوزاء <i>ibṭ</i> <i>al-jauzā'</i> , "the axilla of Orion", or from يد الجوزاء <i>yad al-hauzā'</i> , "the hand of Orion".
Aries	41 Arietis Aa	Bharani	
Pegasus	θ Pegasi	Biham	
Aries	δ Arietis	Botein	
Libra	σ Librae A	Brachium	
Aquarius	ξ Aquarii	Bunda	
Carina	α Carinae A	Canopus	Ptolemy's Κάνωβος, after <u>Canopus</u> ( <i>Kanopos, Kanobos</i> ), a pilot from Greek mythology, whose name is itself of uncertain etymology.
Auriga	α Aurigae Aa	Capella	The traditional name <i>Capella</i> (English: <i>small female goat</i> ) is from <u>Latin</u> , and is a diminutive of the Latin <i>Capra</i> (English: <i>female goat</i> ). <sup>[8]:p86</sup>
Cassiopeia	β Cassiopeiae A	Caph	* The name is originally Arabic کف kaf, "palm", a residue of an old name of Cassiopeia, 'al-kaff al-khadib, "the stained hand"; also known as al-sanam al-nakah, "the camel's hump".
Gemini	α Geminorum Aa	Castor	
Cassiopeia	υ² Cassiopeiae	Castula	
Ophiuchus	β Ophiuchi	Cebalrai	
<u>Taurus</u>	16 Tauri	Celaeno	Member of the <u>Pleiades open star</u> cluster (M45). Celaeno was one of the <u>Pleiades sisters</u> in <u>Greek</u> mythology.

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
<u>Ara</u>	μ Arae	Cervantes	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, the Spanish author of E Ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha. <sup>[23]</sup>
<u>Ursa Major</u>	47 Ursae Majoris	Chalawan	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after a mythological crocodile king from a Thai folktale. <sup>[23]</sup>
Taurus	θ² Tauri Aa	Chamukuy	
Canes Venatici	β Canum Venaticorum Aa	Chara	
Leo	θ Leonis	Chertan	Alternative traditional name of Chort.
Cancer	55 Cancri A	Copernicus	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign <sup>[5]</sup> in honor of the astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus. <sup>[23]</sup>
Canes Venatici	α Canum Venaticorum Aa	Cor Caroli	Named after Charles I of England by Sir Charles Scarborough <sup>[8]</sup> [24][25]
Hercules	<u>ω Herculis A</u>	Cujam	Traditional name, variously spelle Kajam.
<u>Eridanus</u>	<u>β Eridani</u>	Cursa	<ul> <li>The name is originally from Arabic الكرسي al-kursiy, "the chair, footstool"</li> </ul>
Capricornus	β¹ Capricorni Aa	Dabih	
Fornax	<u>α Fornacis A</u>	Dalim	
Cygnus	α Cygni	<u>Deneb</u>	The name is originally from Arabic ذنب الدجاجة ðanab al-dajājah <sup>h</sup> }}. In Chinese, Deneb is part of 鵲橋 "Magpie bridge" in the Qi Xi love story. Deneb is one of the vertices of the Summer Triangle.

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Capricornus	δ Capricorni Aa	Deneb Algedi	
Leo	β Leonis	Denebola	
Coma Berenices	α Comae Berenices A	Diadem	
Cetus	β Ceti	Diphda	Alternatively Deneb Kaitos.
Scorpius	δ Scorpii A	Dschubba	
Ursa Major	α Ursae Majoris A	Dubhe	
Draco	ψ¹ Draconis A	Dziban	From the traditional name of Dziban or Dsiban for $\psi^1$ Draconis, derived from Arabic al-dhi'ban, meaning "the two wolves" or "The two jackals". [8]:p212
Draco	ι Draconis	Edasich	Common name reviewed and adopted by the IAU Executive Committee WG Public Naming of Planets and Planetary Satellites. <sup>[1]</sup>
Taurus	17 Tauri	Electra	Member of the <u>Pleiades open star</u> cluster (M45). <u>Electra</u> was one of the <u>Pleiades sisters</u> in <u>Greek</u> mythology.
Virgo	φ Virginis	Elgafar	
Columba	<u>θ Columbae</u>	Elkurud	
Taurus	β Tauri Aa	Elnath	Variously <i>El Nath</i> or <i>Alnath</i> , from Arabic النطح an-naṭḥ, <i>meaning "the</i> butting" (i.e. "the bull's horns").
Draco	у Draconis	Eltanin	Alternative traditional name of Etamin; both originally from the Arabic constellation name illustration in altinnīn, "the great serpent". γ Dra was also one of the "Five Camels", Quinque Dromedarii, in Arabic al- 'awāid.
Pegasus	ε Pegasi	Enif	
Cepheus	γ Cephei Aa	Errai	Common name reviewed and adopted by the IAU Executive Committee WG Public Naming of Planets and Planetary Satellites. <sup>[1]</sup>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
<u>Draco</u>	42 Draconis A	Fafnir	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after a Norse mythological dwarf who turned into a dragon. <sup>[23]</sup>
Scorpius	π Scorpii Aa	Fang	
Cygnus	δ Cygni	Fawaris	
Hydra	HD 85951	Felis	
Piscis Austrinus	α Piscis Austrini A	Fomalhaut	The name is originally from Arabic فم الحوت fum al-ḥawt, "mouth of the fish". To Persian astrologers this was a Royal star: Haftorang, Watcher of the South. The name was reviewed and adopted by the IAU Executive Committee WG Public Naming of Planets and Planetary Satellites.[1]
Cassiopeia	ζ Cassiopeiae	Fulu	
Pisces	<u>β Piscium</u>	Fumalsamakah	
Canis Major	ζ Canis Majoris Aa	Furud	
Scorpius	G Scorpii	Fuyue	
Crux	γ Crucis	Gacrux	The name "Gacrux" is a contraction of the Bayer designation, coined by astronomer Elijah Hinsdale Burritt (1794–1838). <sup>[26][27]</sup>
Cepheus	μ Cephei	Garnet Star †	Its colour was described as "garnet" by William Herschel. Following Herschel, it was called garnet sidus by Giuseppe Piazzi
Draco	<u>λ Draconis</u>	Giausar	Traditional name, variously spelled Gianfar.
Corvus	γ Corvi A	Gienah	Also known as Gienah Gurab; the star <u>E Cygni</u> is also traditionally known as Gienah.
Crux	<u>ε Crucis</u>	Ginan	Traditional name in the culture of the Wardaman people of the Northern territory of Australia. <sup>[28]</sup>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Canis Minor	β Canis Minoris A	Gomeisa	
Scorpius	ξ Scorpii	Graffias †	Italian for "claws"; also once applied to β Scorpii. [10][8]:p367
Draco	ξ Draconis A	Grumium	
Centaurus	β Centauri Aa	Hadar	
Auriga	η Aurigae	Haedus	
<u>Aries</u>	α Arietis	<u>Hamal</u>	Traditional name (also written Hemal, Hamul, or Ras Hammel), derived from Arabic راس الحمل rās al-ḥamal, "head of the ram", in turn from the name for the constellation as a whole, al ḥamal, "the ram". [8]:pp78,80
Auriga	ι Aurigae	Hassaleh	
Orion	ι Orionis Aa	Hatysa	
Pegasus	51 Pegasi	Helvetios	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Latin for 'the Helvetian' and refers to the Celtic tribe that lived in Switzerland during antiquity. <sup>[23]</sup>
Virgo	ζ Virginis	Heze	
Pegasus	ζ Pegasi A	Homam	
Scorpius	ρ Scorpii Aa	Iklil	
Ursa Major	41 Lyncis	Intercrus	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Intercrus means "between the legs" in Latin style, referring to the star's position in the constellation Ursa Major. <sup>[23]</sup>
<u>Boötes</u>	ε Boötis A	Izar	Originally from Arabic إزار izār, "veil". In the Calendarium of Al Achsasi Al Mouakket designated منتقة ألعوع mintaqah al-'awwa', translated into Latin as Cingulum Latratoris, "belt of barker". Named Pulcherrima (most beautiful) by Otto Struve. <sup>[29]</sup>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Scorpius	ν Scorpii Aa	Jabbah	
Gemini	o Geminorum	Jishui	
Cetus	γ Ceti A	Kaffaljidhma	
Virgo	κ Virginis	Kang	
Sagittarius	ε Sagittarii A	Kaus Australis	
Sagittarius	λ Sagittarii	Kaus Borealis	
Sagittarius	δ Sagittarii	Kaus Media	
Eridanus	40 Eridani A	Keid	The name is originally from Arabid القيض <i>al-qayḍ</i> , "the broken egg- shells".
Virgo	λ Virginis A	Khambalia	
Equuleus	α Equulei A	Kitalpha	
Ursa Minor	ß Ursae Minoris	Kochab	
Hercules	β Herculis Aa	Kornephoros	
Corvus	β Corvi	Kraz	
Draco	ν Draconis	Kuma †	
Cepheus	ξ Cephei Aa	Kurhah	
Canes Venatici	υ Canum Venaticorum	La Superba †	A modern (19th century) name, due to Angelo Secchi.
Scorpius	ε Scorpii	Larawag	Traditional name in the culture of the <u>Wardaman people</u> of the <u>Northern territory</u> of <u>Australia</u> . <sup>[28]</sup>
Scorpius	υ Scorpii	Lesath	
<u>Aquila</u>	ξ Aquilae A	Libertas	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Latin for 'liberty' ('Aquila' is Latin for 'eagle', a popular symbol of liberty). <sup>[23]</sup>
Virgo	PSR B1257+12	Lich	A neutron star and pulsar with planets. Name adopted by the IAL following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. [5] A lich is a fictional undead creature known for controlling other undead creatures with magic. [23]

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Aries	39 Arietis	Lilii Borea	
Hercules	λ Herculis	Maasym	
Auriga	θ Aurigae A	Mahasim	
<u>Taurus</u>	20 Tauri	Maia	Member of the Pleiades open star cluster (M45). Maia was one of the Pleiades sisters in Greek mythology.
Cassiopeia	<u>θ Cassiopeiae</u>	Marfark †	The name is originally from Arabic المرفق <i>al-mirfaq</i> , "the elbow"
Ophiuchus	λ Ophiuchi A	Marfik	
Pegasus	α Pegasi	Markab	
Vela	κ Velorum	Markeb	
Hercules	к Herculis A	Marsic	
Pegasus	η Pegasi Aa	Matar	
Gemini	ε Geminorum	Mebsuta	
Ursa Major	δ Ursae Majoris	Megrez	
<u>Orion</u>	λ Orionis A	Meissa	Traditional name deriving from <u>Arabic</u> <i>al-maisan</i> , "The Shining One".
Gemini	ζ Geminorum Aa	Mekbuda	
Cancer	ε Cancri Aa	Meleph	
Auriga	β Aurigae Aa	Menkalinan	
Cetus	<u>α Ceti</u>	Menkar	Derived from <u>Arabic</u> منخر <i>manḥar</i> , "nostril", or <i>al-minhar</i> , "nose" (of Cetus). <sup>[30][8]</sup> :p162
Centaurus	θ Centauri	Menkent	
Perseus	ξ Persei	Menkib	
Ursa Major	β Ursae Majoris	Merak	
Boötes	38 Boötis	Merga	
Corona Australis	α Coronae Australis	Meridiana	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
<u>Taurus</u>	23 Tauri Aa	Merope	Member of the <u>Pleiades open star</u> cluster (M45). Merope was one of the <u>Pleiades sisters</u> in <u>Greek</u> mythology.
Aries	γ² Arietis A	Mesarthim	
Carina	β Carinae	Miaplacidus	
Crux	β Crucis	Mimosa	Also bore the alternative historical name <i>Becrux</i> , a modern contraction of the Bayer designation. <sup>[31]</sup>
Hydra	σ Hydrae	Minchir	
Virgo	δ Virginis	Minelauva	alternately spelled Minelava
Orion	δ Orionis Aa	Mintaka	Right-most star in the <u>belt of</u> Orion. The name <i>Mintaka</i> itself is derived from <u>Arabic</u> manṭaqah, "belt". <sup>[8]:pp314-315</sup>
Cetus	o Ceti Aa	Mira	Latin for "wonderful" or "astonishing"; named by Johannes Hevelius in his Historiola Mirae Stellae (1662).
Andromeda	β Andromedae	Mirach	
Perseus	η Persei A	Miram	
Perseus	<u>α Persei</u>	Mirfak	
Canis Major	β Canis Majoris	Mirzam	
Perseus	к Persei Aa	Misam	
Ursa Major	ζ Ursae Majoris Aa	Mizar	■ The name is originally from Arabic المئزر al-mi'zar, "apron, waistband, girdle".  ■ 禄 Lù "Status", one of the "Three Stars" in Chinese mythology, the Lu star is believed to be Zhang Xian, who lived during the Later Shu dynasty. The word lu specifically refers to the salary of a government official. As such, the Lu star is the star of prosperity, rank, and influence.
Triangulum	α Trianguli	Mothallah	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Canis Major	γ Canis Majoris	Muliphein	
Boötes	η Boötis Aa	Muphrid	Alternative traditional spelling of "Mufrid".
Ursa Major	o Ursae Majoris A	Muscida	
<u>Delphinus</u>	18 Delphini	Musica	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Latin for 'music' (the ancient Greek musician Arion's life was saved at sea by dolphins (Latin: 'delphinus') after attracting their attention by playing his kithara. <sup>[23]</sup>
Cancer	ξ Cancri	Nahn	
Puppis	ζ Puppis	Naos	
Capricornus	γ Capricorni A	Nashira	
Cassiopeia	γ Cassiopeia	Navi †	"Navi" is a modern name, due to Gus Grissom (his middle name "Ivan" spelled backward). In Chinese astronomy, it is known as 策 cè "the whip".
Boötes	β Boötis	Nekkar	
Andromeda	51 Andromedae	Nembus	
Lepus	β Leporis A	Nihal	
Sagittarius	σ Sagittarii Aa	Nunki	
Corona Borealis	β Coronae Borealis A	Nusakan	
Hercules	HD 149026	Ogma	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after Ogma, a deity in Celtic mythology. <sup>[23]</sup>
Aquila	ζ Aquilae	Okab	
<u>Pavo</u>	<u>α Pavonis Aa</u>	Peacock	Designated "Peacock" (after the constellation) by His Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office for the Royal Air Force in the 1930s. <sup>[21]</sup>

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Columba	<u>α Columbae</u>	Phact	
Ursa Major	γ Ursae Majoris Aa	Phecda	Alternative traditional names Phekda or Phad.
Ursa Minor	γ Ursae Minoris	Pherkad	
Cancer	λ Cancri A	Piautos	
Scorpius	μ² Scorpii A	Pipirima	
Taurus	28 Tauri Aa	Pleione	Member of the Pleiades open star cluster (M45). Pleione was the mother of the Pleiades sisters in Greek mythology.
<u>Ursa Minor</u>	α Ursae Minoris	<u>Polaris</u>	Became known as <i>stella polaris</i> ("polar star") during the Renaissance. <sup>[32]</sup> see polar star for other names based on its position close to the celestial pole. Arabic القطب الشمالي <i>al-quṭb al-shamāliyy</i> , "the northern axle".
Octans	σ Octantis Aa	Polaris Australis	see South Star
Sagittarius	μ Sagittarii Aa	Polis	
Gemini	β Geminorum	Pollux	
Virgo	γ Virginis A	Porrima	
Leo Minor	46 Leonis Minoris	Praecipua	
Taurus	γ Tauri A	Prima Hyadum	
Canis Minor	α Canis Minoris A	Procyon	Greek προκύον "preceding the Dog (viz. <u>Sirius</u> )"; Latinized as <i>Antecanis</i> .
Gemini	η Geminorum A	Propus	
Centaurus	α Centauri C	Proxima Centauri	
<u>Eridanus</u>	ε Eridani	Ran	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after the Norse goddess of the sea. <sup>[23]</sup>
Eridanus	δ Eridani	Rana †	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Leo	μ Leonis	Rasalas	
Hercules	α¹ Herculis Aa	Rasalgethi	also Ras Algethi.
Ophiuchus	α Ophiuchi A	Rasalhague	also Ras Alhgue.
Draco	β Draconis A	Rastaban	
Vela	γ Velorum	Regor †	Also known as Suhail and Suhail al Muhlif, which also apply to lambda Velorum
Leo	α Leonis A	Regulus	Latin for "prince" or "little king". Regulus was known to Persian astrologers as the Royal Star Venant, Watcher of the North.
Pisces	ζ Piscium A	Revati	
<u>Orion</u>	β Orionis A	Rigel	Traditional name first recorded in the Alfonsine Tables of 1252 and derived from the Arabic name <i>rijl jauzah al uusrā</i> , "the left leg (foot) of Jauzah" ( <i>rijl</i> meaning "leg, foot"). [8]:pp312-313
Centaurus	<u>α Centauri A</u>	Rigil Kentaurus	The name is originally from Arabic رجل قنطورس <i>rijl qantūriš</i> , "foot of the centaur".
Delphinus	β Delphini A	Rotanev	
<u>Cassiopeia</u>	<u>δ Cassiopeiae</u> <u>Aa</u>	Ruchbah	Derived from <u>Arabic</u> ركبة rukbah, "knee". <sup>[33]</sup> Alternative historical name Ksora appeared in a 1951 publication, Atlas Coeli ( <u>Skalnate</u> Pleso Atlas of the Heavens) by Czech astronomer <u>Antonín Bečvář</u> Professor Paul Kunitzch has been unable to find any clues as to the origin of the name. <sup>[34]</sup>
Sagittarius	<u>α Sagittarii</u>	Rukbat	
Ophiuchus	η Ophiuchi A	Sabik	
Auriga	ζ Aurigae A	Saclateni	
Aquarius	γ Aquarii Aa	Sadachbia	
Pegasus	μ Pegasi	Sadalbari	
Aquarius	<u>α Aquarii A</u>	Sadalmelik	
Aquarius	β Aquarii A	Sadalsuud	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Cygnus	γ Cygni A	Sadr	
Orion	к Orionis	Saiph	Traditional name from <u>Arabic</u> سيف sayf al-jabbār, literally <u>sword</u> of the <u>giant</u> . <sup>[35]</sup>
Pegasus	τ Pegasi	Salm	
Scorpius	θ Scorpii A	Sargas	
Hercules	δ Herculis Aa	Sarin	
Ursa Major	θ Ursae Majoris	Sarir †	
<u>Eridanus</u>	53 Eridani A	Sceptrum	Formerly "p Sceptri", in the constellation of Sceptrum Brandenburgicum
Pegasus	β Pegasi	Scheat	
Cassiopeia	<u>α Cassiopeiae</u>	Schedar	<ul> <li>Also traditionally bore the name Schedir; both originally from Arabic صدر ṣadr, "breast"; also ألضاة ألكرسي al-ḍāh al-kursiyy, "the lady in the chair (Ulugh Beg)", whence Dath Elkarti (Riccoli 1651).</li> </ul>
Taurus	δ¹ Tauri Aa	Secunda Hyadum	
Cassiopeia	ε Cassiopeia	Segin	Probably originates from an erroneous transcription of Seginus, the traditional name for <u>y</u> Boötis, which itself is of uncertain origin. <sup>[36]</sup>
Boötes	γ Boötis Aa	Seginus	Of uncertain origin. <sup>[36]</sup>
Sagitta	α Sagittae	Sham	
Scorpius	λ Scorpii Aa	Shaula	
Lyra	β Lyrae Aa1	Sheliak	
Aries	β Arietis A	Sheratan	
Canis Major	α Canis Majoris A	Sirius	Greek Σείριος "the scorcher"; in Egyptian <u>Sopdet</u> , rendered in Greek as $Σωθις$ . As the brightest star in the sky, Sirius has proper names in numerous cultures, including <u>Polynesian</u> (Maori <u>Takurua</u> ; Hawaiian <u>Ka'ulua</u> ,

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
			"Queen of Heaven", among others). Also known as the Dog Star.
Aquarius	к Aquarii A	Situla	
Aquarius	δ Aquarii A	Skat	
Virgo	α Virginis Aa	Spica	Other traditional names are Azimech, from Arabic لسماك الأعزل al-simāk al-a'zal, "the undefended", and Alarph, Arabic for "the grape gatherer"; in Indian astronomy known as Chitra "the bright one".
Delphinus	<u>α Delphini Aa</u>	Sualocin	
Leo	o Leonis Aa	Subra	
Vela	<u>λ Velorum</u>	Suhail	Traditionally, this name also applied to gamma Velorum, also known as Regor.
Lyra	γ Lyrae	Sulafat	
Virgo	ι Virginis	Syrma	
Orion	π³ Orionis	Tabit	
Ursa Major	χ Ursae Majoris	Taiyangshou	
Draco	8 Draconis	Taiyi	
Ursa Major	ι Ursae Majoris <u>Aa</u>	Talitha	or Talitha Borealis, as Talitha originally referred to κ UMa and ι UMa together
Ursa Major	μ Ursae Majoris A	Tania Australis	
Ursa Major	<u>λ Ursae Majoris</u>	Tania Borealis	
Aquila	γ Aquilae	Tarazed	Alternative traditional spelling of Tarazet
Cancer	β Cancri	Tarf	
Taurus	19 Tauri Aa	Taygeta	Member of the Pleiades open star cluster (M45). Taygete was one of the Pleiades sisters in Greek mythology.
Cancer	ζ¹ Cancri A	Tegmine	Alternative traditional name of Tegmen.

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Gemini	μ Geminorum Aa	Tejat	Traditional name, also called Tejat Posterior.
Sagittarius	ω Sagittarii A	Terebellum	From Ptolemy's τετράπλευρον, a quadrangle of stars of which ω Sag is the brightest
Orion	υ Orionis	Thabit †	
Eridanus	υ² Eridani	Theemin	Also written as Theemim or Beemin.
Draco	α Draconis A	Thuban	
Grus	β Gruis	Tiaki	
<u>Taurus</u>	<u>ζ Tauri A</u>	Tianguan	<ul> <li>In Chinese 天關 (<i>Tiānguān</i>, English: Celestial Gate).</li> <li>Also reported as <i>Shurnarkabtisha-shūtū</i>, from Babylonian "the star in the bull towards the south" or "the southern star towards the chariot". [8]:p391</li> </ul>
Draco	7 Draconis	Tianyi	
Andromeda	<u>υ Andromedae</u> <u>A</u>	Titawin	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after the settlement in northern Morocco and <u>UNESCO</u> World Heritage Site now known at the medina (old town) of <u>Tétouan</u> . <sup>[23]</sup>
Camelopardalis	HD 104985	Tonatiuh	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Named after the <u>Aztec god</u> of the Sun. <sup>[23]</sup>
Pisces	o Piscium A	Torcular	
Puppis	ρ Puppis A	Tureis	
<u>Hydra</u>	ι Hydrae	Ukdah	
Serpens	α Serpentis	Unukalhai	Arabic عنق الحيّة 'unuq al-ḥayyati, "the Serpent's Neck", in Latin <i>Cor</i> Serpentis, "Heart of the Serpent".
Canis Major	σ Canis Majoris	Unurgunite	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
<u>Lyra</u>	α Lyrae	Vega	The name is originally from Arabic an-nasr al-wāqi', "the alighting vulture", also translated as vulture cadens (see also Aetos Dios, Stymphalian birds). As the second brightest star in the northern sky, Vega has names in numerous cultures. In Chinese it is known as 織女 "weaving girl" from the Qi Xi love story. Vega is one of the vertices of the Summer Triangle.
Andromeda	14 Andromedae A	Veritate	Name adopted by the IAU following the 2015 NameExoWorlds campaign. <sup>[5]</sup> Latin for 'where there is truth'. <sup>[23]</sup>
Virgo	<u>ε Virginis</u>	Vindemiatrix	Vindemiatrix is Latin for "grape gatherer"
Gemini	δ Geminorum Aa	Wasat	
Columba	β Columbae	Wazn	
Canis Major	δ Canis Majoris Aa	Wezen	
Phoenix	ζ Phoenicis Aa	Wurren	Traditional name in the culture of the Wardaman people of the Northern territory of Australia. [28]
Scorpius	μ¹ Scorpii Aa	Xamidimura	
Boötes	<u>λ Boötis</u>	Xuange	
Ophiuchus	ε Ophiuchi	Yed Posterior	
Ophiuchus	δ Ophiuchi	Yed Prior	
Ursa Minor	δ Ursae Minoris	Yildun	
Virgo	η Virginis Aa	Zaniah	
<u>Eridanus</u>	<u>γ Eridani</u>	Zaurak	Traditional name, alternatively spelled Zaurac; originally from Arabic زورق zawraq, "boat". <sup>[8]</sup> :p218
Virgo	β Virginis	Zavijava	also known as Alaraph
Hydra	υ¹ Hydrae A	Zhang	
Eridanus	ζ Eridani Aa	Zibal	
Leo	<u>δ Leonis</u>	Zosma	

Constellation	Designation	Modern proper name	Historical names / comments
Libra	α² Librae Aa	Zubenelgenubi	also Lanx Australis, Zubeneschamali
Libra	γ Librae A	Zubenelhakrabi	
Libra	<u>β Librae</u>	Zubeneschamali	

#### See also

- List of Arabic star names
- List of nearest bright stars
- Biblical names of stars
- Stars named after people
- Table of stars with Bayer designations
- Traditional Chinese star names

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#### **External links**

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