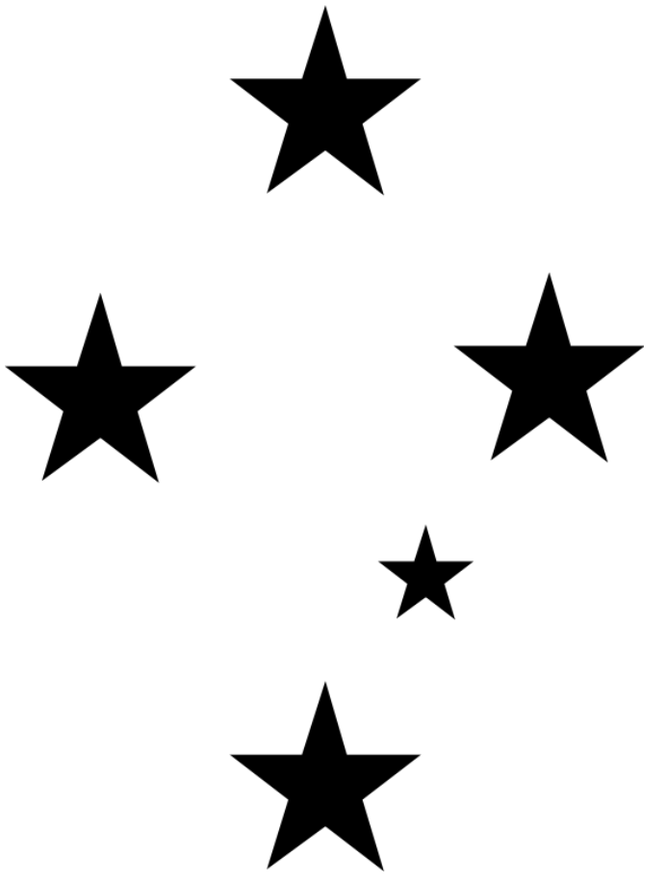
Skylabs Enhanced Bahtinov

Focusing Mask for Astrophotography and Night Photography

Skylabs



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Quick Guide for Camera Lenses

1. Set up the camera and lens for regular night photography
   - ➔ set manual focus
   - ➔ set manual mode
   - ➔ set to lowest f-number
   - ➔ set to ISO 1600 or higher
   - ➔ set shutter following the NPF (or 500) rule or ~15s if using sky tracker
2. Introduce the Bahtinov Mask in your filter holder.
3. Point your camera to a bright star.
4. Enable the zoom in the live view mode.
5. Move the focus to align the central spike and take a shot.
   - ➔ If the image shows central spike is off to the left, the focus is too far.
   - ➔ If the central spike is off to the right, then the focus is too close.
6. Iterate step 5 until you achieve the perfect focus.
7. Lock the focus with sticky tape to ensure the focus will remain over the complete photographic session.
8. Take the mask from the filter holder.
9. Proceed to take the dark, bias and flat frames. Consider using Skylabs flat panel for generating the flat frames.

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Quick Guide for Telescopes

1. Set up the camera for regular astrophotography
   - ➔ [DSLR or mirrorless] set manual mode
   - ➔ set to ISO 1600 (or equivalent camera gain)
   - ➔ set exposure to few seconds (~15s is usually enough)
2. Use Neodymium magnets and Eva foam to hold the mask at the front of your telescope.
3. Point your telescope to a bright star.
4. Use the zoom option to visualise the image with the view mode, laptop or tablet (if using ZWO ASIair or similar).
5. Move the focus to align the central spike and take a shot.
   - ➔ If the image shows central spike is off to the left, the focus is too far.
   - ➔ If the central spike is off to the right, then the focus is too close.
6. Iterate step 5 until you achieve the perfect focus.
7. Remove the Bahtinov Mask from the telescope.
8. Proceed to take the dark, bias and flat frames as usual.

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