



# "37" Cluster, NGC 2169 an asterism for small telescopes



*On both the Astronomical League's  
Asterism list and Herschel 400 list*

## How to find ...

1. Find Orion and its bright star Betelgeuse.
2. Locate Gamma Geminorum, an easily seen 1.9 magnitude star at the foot of Gemini.
3. Draw a line connecting those two stars.
4. At the line's mid point, draw another line perpendicular to it extending northwest. The line's length is 1/4 that of the first line.
5. It ends near Xi and Nu Orionis, two 4.4 magnitude stars. Aim the finderscope (or binoculars) at them.
6. NGC 2169 forms the southwestern vertex of a right triangle with Xi and Nu.

7. Use moderate to low magnification, one that gives a field of 30-40 minutes.
8. The cluster's stars have magnitudes ranging from 7 through 11.

## Can you see the "37"? Or do you see something else?

- Remember, in an SCT or refractor using a diagonal, the image will be mirrored.
- A rotated field will depict an "LE" instead of a "37."

This cluster is thought to be 3600 light-years distant, and may actually consist of two neighboring clusters.

