

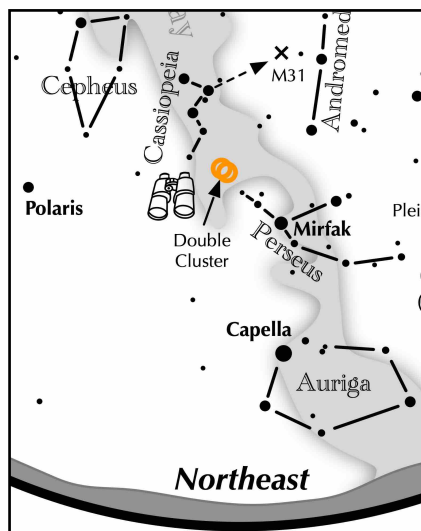


Can you easily find this open cluster showpiece?

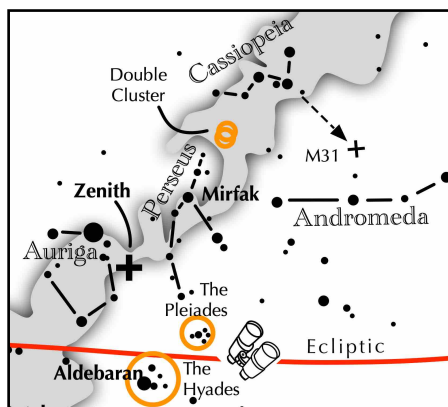
Every Curious Skywatcher should know how to find the Double Cluster



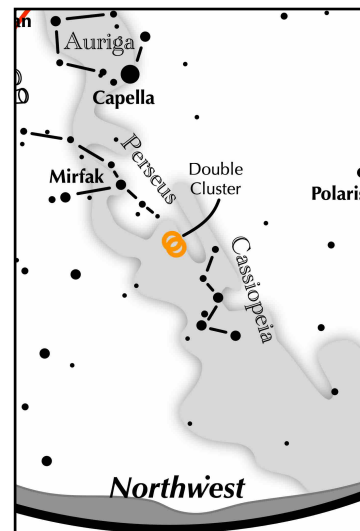
Visible in the early evening sky from late October through late March.



November in the northeast



January facing south
looking past the zenith



March in the northwest

The **Double Cluster** can be spotted with unaided eye from a dark sky as a dim glow in the Milky Way between Perseus and Cassiopeia. Through 10x50 binoculars, it is an obvious sight, revealing its brighter glittering lights. The neighboring cluster, **Stock 2**, can be seen as a much dimmer and more spread out grainy glow.



How to find the Double Cluster (aka NGC 869 & 884, and Caldwell 14):

1. Find the "w" shaped constellation Cassiopeia and the neighboring constellation to its southeast, Perseus. Identify Perseus' brightest star, 1.8 magnitude Mirfak.
2. Mid way between the center star of Cassiopeia's "w" (Gamma Cas) and Mirfak lies a soft glow.
3. Binoculars aimed at the glow reveal the famous Double Cluster, also called NGC 869 and 884, Caldwell 14, and h Persei and Chi Persei.
4. Place the Double Cluster near the southern edge of the field. Near its center lies Stock 2, the Muscleman Cluster, which appears as a large, dim grainy glow.

