

Jeff's Binocular Picks for April 2018

This monthly list of binocular objects contains some of my choices of the best objects visible through binoculars. Many of these are easy targets and visible thru ordinary binoculars, but a few of them can be quite challenging. Viewing some the more challenging objects from a dark location will help, and the steadiness obtained by mounting your binoculars on a tripod will also help! Use this list along with a current copy of the monthly sky map from www.skymaps.com and try to locate as many as you can. This will help you learn your way around the night sky. This list is also good for small scopes, too! Good Luck and have fun hunting!

~ Jeff Benuzzi ~

<u>Seen?</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Constellation In / Near</u>
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Early Evening

	Venus	Planet	Aries
	Double Cluster (NGC 869 & 884)	Open Clusters	Perseus / Cassiopeia
	M45 (Pleiades or 7 Sisters)	Open Cluster	Taurus
	Hyades	Open Cluster	Taurus
	M42 (Great Orion Nebula)	Diffuse Nebula	Orion
	Orion "S"	Asterism	Orion
	M38, M36, & M37	Open Clusters	Auriga
	M35 (Kermit Cluster)	Open Cluster	Gemini
	NGC 2264 (Xmas Tree Cluster)	Open Cluster	Monoceros / Gemini
	M41	Open Cluster	Canis Major

Late Evening

	M46 & M47	Open Clusters	Monoceros / Puppis
	M44 (Beehive Cluster)	Open Cluster	Cancer
	M81 & M82 Galaxy Pair	Galaxies	Ursa Major
	Mel 111 (Berenices Hair)	Open Cluster	Coma Berenices
	M104 (Sombrero Galaxy)	Spiral Galaxy	Corvus
	M51 (Whirlpool Galaxy)	Galaxy	Ursa Maj / Canes Venatici
	M3	Globular Cluster	Boötes / Coma Berenices

After Midnight

	M5	Globular Cluster	Serpens Caput
	M13 (Hercules Cluster) and M92	Globular Clusters	Hercules
	M12 & M10	Globular Clusters	Ophiuchus
	IC 4665 (A/B Cluster)	Open Cluster	Ophiuchus
	M57 (Ring Nebula)	Planetary Nebula	Lyra
	Albireo (Cub Scout Star)	Double-Star	Cygnus
	Lyrids	Meteor Shower	Lyra - Peaks April 22 am