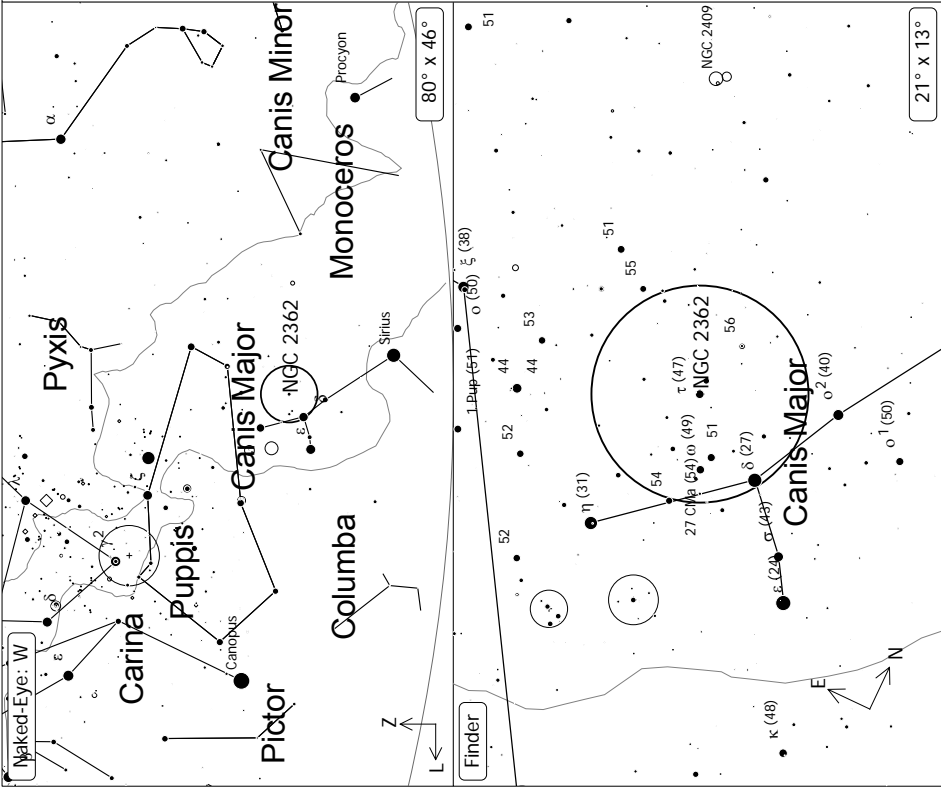
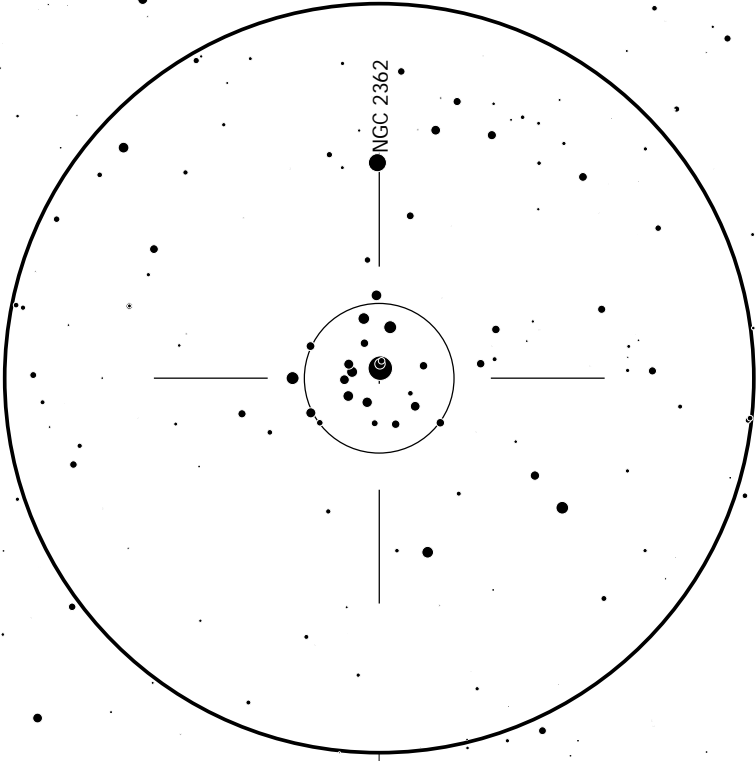


# NGC 2362

Naked-Eye: W



Eye-piece: 120x, 25.0"



38'30" X 31'31"

2014 June 28 18:51, VS Star Party - Gansvlei  
 Fully dark ML 14.4 target obvious  
 Orion SkyQuest XT10 Dob, Sirius Plössl 10mm eyepiece  
 NGC 2362 (Open Cluster)  
 aka Collinder 136, Melotte 65, Raab 52, OCL 633  
 R.A.: 07h18m41.0s Dec.: -24°57'18" J2000 (CMA)  
 Magnitude: 3.80 Size: 5.0' Distance: 4500 ly

- Galaxy
- Galaxy Gr.
- Quasar
- Planetary
- Nebula
- ◇ Dark Neb.
- ◇ Globule
- Open Cl.
- Globular Cl.

- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14

## NGC 2362

Open Cluster  
aka Collinder 136, Melotte 65, Raab 52, OCL 633

R.A.: 07h18m41.0s, Dec.: -24°57'18" (2000) in Canis Major  
Galactic lon: +238°11', Galactic lat: -05°33'  
Magnitude: 3.80  
Size: 5.0'

### Catalog Data

Radial Velocity: 34 km/sec  
Distance: 4500 ly  
Age: 8 Myrs  
Color Excess E(B-V): 0.110

### Apparent Data for 2014 Jun 28 GMT+2 at VS Star Party - Gansvlei

Apparent RA: 07h19m16.1s, Apparent Dec: -24°59'07"  
Ecliptical lon: +116°22', Ecliptical lat: -46°36'  
Azimuth: +249°42', True Altitude: +15°36', %  
Zenith Distance: +74°24'  
Local Sidereal Time: 13h00m  
Hour Angle: 05h42m  
Airmass: 3.7  
Mean extincted magnitude: 4.5

### ASSA Deepsky 100 Group: Caldwell 64

Tau Canis Majoris Cluster  
"Northern" Jewel Box  
Mexican Jumping Star  
Liquid Pyramid

### ASSA Deepsky 100 Group:

Our next object ranks as the sky's 9th-brightest open cluster. Named for the brightest star it contains, the Tau Canis Majoris Cluster contains magnitude 4.4 Tau (t) CMa and lots of fainter stars. In fact, no cluster star shines within 3 magnitudes of Tau. Tau is one of the most luminous supergiants known. Its absolute magnitude (the brightness it would have if its distance were 32.6 light-years) is -7. That makes it roughly 50,000 times brighter than the Sun. One of Tau CMa's common names, the Mexican Jumping Star, probably arose when Northern Hemisphere amateur astronomers observed it twinkling wildly. Because the star sits so low in the sky (it stands a maximum of only 258 high as viewed from 408 north latitude), its light passes through a lot of atmosphere before it reaches northern telescopes. To locate NGC 2362, find magnitude 1.8 Wezen (Delta [d] CanisMajoris), and move 2.78 to the eastnortheast. You'll spot the cluster easily with your naked eyes. Use binoculars, and you'll see that many stars pack this area of the winter Milky Way. Through a telescope, Tau dominates the view, partially obscuring many of the 10th-magnitude stars surrounding it. To get an accurate count of the stars in NGC 2362, place Tau just outside the field of view, first to the north, then to each of the other three cardinal directions. Then, simply count the suddenly visible fainter stars and add the four numbers together.

### Chart Numbers

Pocket Sky Atlas 27  
Millennium Star Atlas Vol I Chart 345  
Sky Atlas 2000 Chart 19  
Uranometria 2000 Vol II Chart 319  
Uranometria 2nd Ed. Chart 154  
Herald-Bobroff Astroatlas B-12 C-70