

Astronomical Signs

Astrology is the pseudoscience of how the positions of the stars and movements of the planets have a supposed influence on events and on the lives and behavior of people. Astrological, or Zodiac, Signs are based on what constellation the Sun was in on the date you were born (a couple thousand years ago):

Dates	Sign/Constellation	English Translation
Jan 20–Feb 18	Aquarius	Water-Bearer
Feb 19–Mar 20	Pisces	Fish
Mar 21–Apr 19	Aries	Ram
Apr 20–May 20	Taurus	Bull
May 21–Jun 20	Gemini	Twins
Jun 21–Jul 22	Cancer	Crab
Jul 23–Aug 22	Leo	Lion
Aug 23–Sep 22	Virgo	Maiden
Sep 23–Oct 22	Libra	Scales
Oct 23–Nov 21	Scorpio	Scorpion
Nov 22–Dec 21	Sagittarius	Archer
Dec 22–Jan 19	Capricorn	Goat

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Astronomy is the scientific study of stars, planets, and other objects in outer space. Your Astronomical Sign is an interesting astronomical object that was in the (northern hemisphere) sky the night you were born:

Dates	Object	Description
Jan 20–Feb 18	Cigar Galaxy	A starburst galaxy in Ursa Major (the Great Bear), 12 million light years away, making stars 10 times faster than the Milky Way; it also had the Type Ia Supernova 2014J in it.
Feb 19–Mar 20	MACS J1149.5+2223	A cluster of galaxies in Leo (the Lion) that are magnifying (through gravitational lensing) some of the farthest galaxies ever seen (about 13.2 billion light years away); it also had a supernova that was seen multiple times because of the gravitational lenses in the cluster.
Mar 21–Apr 19	Whirlpool Galaxy	A grand design spiral galaxy in Canes Venatici (the Hunting Dogs), 23 million light years away, interacting with a smaller companion galaxy; it also had the Type II Supernova 2005cs and the Type IIb Supernova 2011dh in it.
Apr 20–May 20	Pinwheel Galaxy	A grand design spiral galaxy in Ursa Major (the Great Bear), 21 million light years away; it also had the Type Ia Supernova 2011fe in it.
May 21–Jun 20	Cat’s Eye Nebula	A planetary nebula in Draco (the Dragon), 3000 light years away, with a dense dead star called a white dwarf in the center; the white dwarf has a surface temp of 140,000 °F (about 14 times hotter than the surface of the Sun); the gas around the white dwarf is expanding out into space at 4.2 million miles per hour.
Jun 21–Jul 22	Eagle Nebula	A star-forming region and cluster of young stars in Serpens (the Snake), 7000 light years away, containing huge clouds of hydrogen gas and dust; it includes the famous Pillars of Creation.
Jul 23–Aug 22	North America Nebula	A star-forming region and huge emission nebula in Cygnus (the Swan), 1600 light years away, containing hydrogen gas and dark dust; it is more than four times larger on the sky than the full Moon.
Aug 23–Sep 22	Cassiopeia A	A supernova remnant in Cassiopeia (the Queen), 11,000 light years away; the supernova went off about 300 years ago (but no one saw it from Earth); it is the brightest source of radio waves outside the Solar System; the shell of gas has a temperature of around 50 million °F and is expanding at 11 million miles per hour.
Sep 23–Oct 22	Andromeda Galaxy	The Milky Way’s “big sister” neighbor galaxy in Andromeda (the Chained Woman), 2.5 million light years away, it is about 1.5 times bigger than our own Milky Way Galaxy; it is by far the farthest thing you can see with the naked eye (but only from a very dark site).
Oct 23–Nov 21	Pleiades	An open star cluster also called the Seven Sisters or Subaru, in Taurus (the Bull), 440 light years away, it contains about 1200 stars, the brightest ones are hot blue stars that were born sometime in the last 100 million years.
Nov 22–Dec 21	Crab Nebula	A supernova remnant in Taurus (the Bull), 6500 light years away; the supernova went off in 1054 (and many ancient civilizations saw and wrote about it); a dense dead star (only 18 miles in diameter) called a neutron star is at the center of the nebula; the neutron star spins 30 times per second and sends out pulses of light at all wavelengths (radio to gamma rays); the nebula has a temperature of around 25,000 °F and is expanding at 3.4 million miles per hour.
Dec 22–Jan 19	Intergalactic Wanderer	A globular star cluster in Lynx (the Lynx), 300,000 light years away, it is one of the biggest star clusters in our Milky Way Galaxy with over a million stars in it; it is also on the outskirts of our Galaxy so it might be the remnant of a small galaxy that got ripped apart by the Milky Way.