

GENERAL DESCRIPTION GUIDELINES

Galaxies

Did you use direct or averted vision?
What is the overall shape?
Is the core noticeable, compact, stellar ?
Can structure be seen in the galaxy, mottling, bright or dark patches or lanes?
Are the outer edges sharp or diffuse?
Identify any other DSO in the field.

Globular Clusters

Did you use direct or averted vision?
Is the core bright, compact, or not distinguishable?
Is it highly or loosely concentrated?
Is any part of it resolved into stars, averted vision or not, or does it show mottling, or stars resolved at the edges?
Identify any other DSO in the field.

Open Clusters

Is it easily distinguished from the background stars, is it well defined?
Is there a overall shape?
How many stars can you count in the cluster?
Are the stars concentrated in any one area?
Is the cluster fully resolved or is background nebulosity noticed?
Are there areas where stars are absent in the cluster?
Are there any brighter stars in the cluster and do any stand out in color?
Identify any other DSO in the field.

Open Cluster/ Nebulosity

Did you use direct or averted vision to view the cluster and nebulosity, are filters needed?
What is the overall shape?
Are the outer edges sharply defined?
Can both the cluster and nebulosity be seen with direct vision, or is averted vision or filters needed?
What is the overall shape?
Are the outer edges sharply defined?
Are the stars concentrated in any one area?
Is the cluster embedded in the nebulosity or is there a distinct separation?
Is any part of the nebula brighter or more concentrated?
Are there any voids or dark patches or lanes, bright filaments or streamers in the nebulosity?
Identify any other DSO in the field.

Nebula

Did you use direct or averted vision? filters needed?
What is the overall shape?
Are the outer edges sharply defined?
Is any part of the nebula brighter or more concentrated?
Are there any voids or dark patches or lanes, bright filaments or streamers in the nebulosity?
Is there an open cluster nearby or involved or any obvious stars involved with the nebulosity?
Identify any other DSO in the field.

Planetary Nebula

What is the overall shape, is it disk shaped or more stellar?
Are the edges sharp or diffuse?
Is it easy or difficult to identify in the field?
What is the color of the Planetary?
Is the center brighter, darker or uniform brightness as the edges?
Identify any other DSO in the field.