0133

Messier 103 Cluster

Quick Facts:

Distance: 10,000 Light-years. Size: Approx 15 Light-years.
Constellation: Cassiopeia.
A distant cluster that can be seen in binoculars in a familiar constellation. Look for two reddish stars in it. The red giants are the most massive stars, already evolving though the cluster is just 25 million years old. (The brightest field star is not a member of M103.)
Find it: Easily located in the W of Cassiopeia. Starting with the westernmost W star count to the fourth star (Ruchbah, δ Cas). The cluster is just a degree east of Ruchbah. GOTO: M (Messier).

Image by 2MASS. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen