2130

Messier 15

Quick Facts:

Distance: 34,000 Light-years. **Size: Approx 180 Light-years.**

Constellation: Pegasus.

A ball of over 100,000 stars, it has a black hole 4,000 times as massive as the sun at its center. Core collapse of a cluster makes the more massive stars concentrate at its center, while less massive ones can be lost to the gravitational pull of the galaxy. And massive stars at the star-dense core are more likely to merge into black holes. Like all Milky Way globulars, it's about 12 billion years old.

Find it: The cluster is 4 degrees NW of Enif. GOTO: M (Messier).

Image by ESA/Hubble/NASA. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.