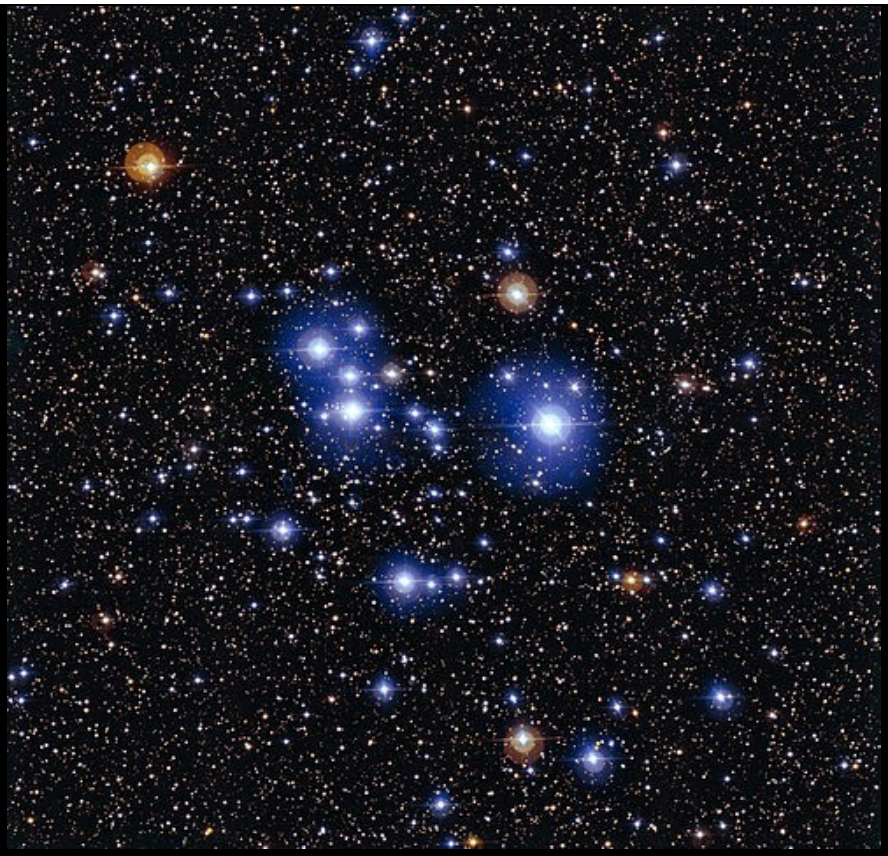
0737

Messier 47



Quick Facts:

Distance: 1600 Light-years.

Size: Approx 70 Light-years.

Constellation: Canis Major.

A close cluster pair with M46 to the east. It's much closer, coarser and younger than its companion. Age 75 million years. Look for several red stars among the brighter blue ones.

Find it: Go 10 degrees due east of Sirius and 2 up. It's nestled just west of the fainter Messier 46. GOTO: M (Messier).

Image by ESO. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.