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NGC 188

Quick Facts:

Distance: 5400 Light-years. **Size: Approx 25 Light-years.**

Constellation: Cepheus.

A very old galactic cluster, it's been around more than 7 billion years. One reason for its age is its distance above the Milky Way galaxy has preserved it from tidal gravitational forces that normally disperse clusters. No brilliant supergiants here, but packed with the evolutionary oddities know as blue straggler stars.

Find it: Only 4 degrees away from Polaris. Look for the star Errai in Cepheus and sweep 2/3 of the way to the Pole star. GOTO: NGC 188.

Image by Martin Germano. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.