



Astronomy

Part of La Société Guernesiaise

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR SOLAR OBSERVING WITH THE CELESTRON NEXSTAR 8" SCT AND FULL APERTURE SOLAR FILTER

1. Check the integrity of the filter by holding up to the light, looking for pinholes and tears. If damaged do not use it and report it to the Equipment Officer or Section Secretary.
2. Make sure that the telescope is pointing away from the sun before removing the telescope corrector plate cover and fitting the solar filter in front of the corrector plate.
3. When handling the filter avoid touching the filter material.
4. When installing adjust the three plastic screws and in addition it is recommended to use suitable tape (electrical tape works well) at least three locations from the metal frame of the filter onto the body of the telescope. Do not stick it to the filter material. For outreach this additional safety measure is mandatory.
5. Do not use the night-time finderscope to locate the Sun.
6. Make sure night-time finderscope is covered or removed before pointing the telescope at the Sun.
7. Use the Sol-Searcher solar finderscope to locate the sun, it attaches to the Baader Planetarium shoe. Instructions are given below.
8. When removing the filter make sure the telescope is not pointing to the sun before removing. Replace it carefully in the packaging and box, as it was when you removed it.

Additional requirements if carrying out public solar viewing:

1. Always give a safety briefing about the danger of looking directly at the sun with both the naked eye and with optical instruments.
2. The additional requirement of tape described in item 4 is required.
3. Do not leave the telescope unattended at any time.

Sol-Searcher Instructions

The Sol-Searcher attaches to the Baader Planetarium shoe.

The name-plate faces the front of the telescope.

The aperture acts like a "pinhole camera" to project a bright solar disc onto the 6mm diameter translucent screen in the rear of the unit. You simply centre the image on the screen to safely locate the sun, standing at the front or front/side looking towards the rear of the telescope to view the screen. Do not face into the sun.