

Navigational Star Chart Notes

The **Navigational Star Chart** displays constellations and the 57 navigational stars used in the Air and Nautical Almanacs. The navigational stars are distinguished by their proper names. Those stars used in Pub. No. 249 Vol. 1 (Selected Stars) have their name and number underlined; other bright stars in the constellations are identified by their Greek letters. This chart also appears on the Web at <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/>. The sidereal hour angle (SHA) and declination of stars can be determined using the chart. The SHA is measured westwards (0 to 360 degrees) from the vernal equinox (Aries). The rectangular shape of the chart distorts the relative positions of the stars, most notably in the polar regions.

The original chart size is 8.9 x 12.2 inches. If you want to print it to a standard 8.5 x 11 inch page, it is best to set your PDF reader to print in landscape mode and scale to fit to the page (else manually scale to 85%).

An inverse (white print on black sky) chart is also included, but it is more suitable to screen viewing than to printing.