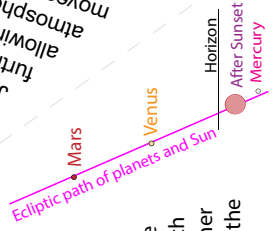




- 1 Print double-sided (heavy paper best)
- 2 Cut out this wedge from pentagon
- 3 Kids punch out stars with pushpin, or dab with glow-in-dark glue
- 4 Fold inward on creases
- 5 Lay flat on table to tape edge
- 6 Open to make pyramid

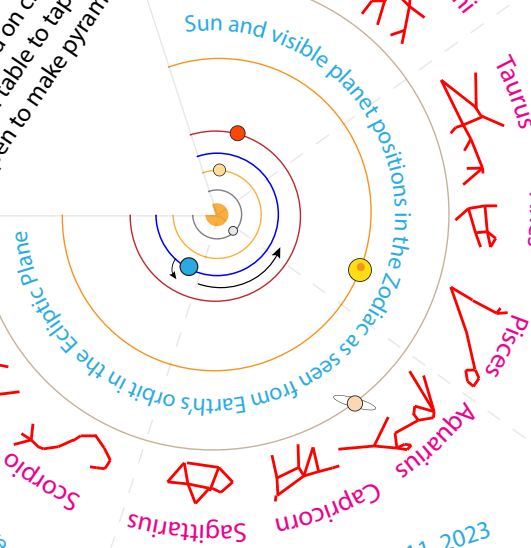
Earth, Venus, and the Sun form a 90-degree angle on June 4, so from Earth's perspective Venus is at its furthest distance from the Sun and high in the evening sky, allowing its reflected light to travel through less of Earth's atmosphere. It will continue to travel through the next month as it moves closer to Earth in its orbit, even though it is sinking in the sky and less of its disc is illuminated as viewed from Earth. In about 18 months Venus will again be at its brightest in the evening sky.

Why is Venus so Bright Now?



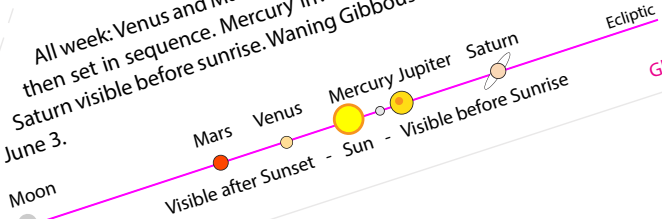
Venus in its faster inner orbit has now passed the point of creating a right angle to the Sun and Earth, and now appears to be sinking slowly toward the Sun. Mars is sinking also and will almost catch up with Venus in July, before Venus sinks further and disappears behind the Sun, to reappear in the early morning sky before sunrise.

Venus and Mars in Night Sky

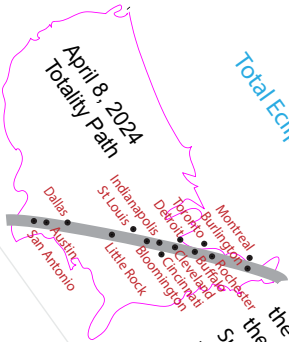


Night Sky June 4-June 11, 2023

All week: Venus and Mars visible after sunset along the Ecliptic, then set in sequence. Mercury invisible in Sun's glare. Jupiter and Saturn visible before sunrise. Waning Gibbous Moon after Full Moon on June 3.



Globetarium.com



April 8, 2024
Totality Path

Total Eclipse Countdown: 44 weeks!

Next year's solar eclipse will completely block the Sun for over four minutes on the Totality Path. Each month the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth (New Moon), and each month it crosses the ecliptic plane twice. When it crosses between the Earth and Sun so it eclipses the Sun.



