



# The Astronomical League

A Federation of Astronomical Societies

Astro Note D4 – **Constellation Names**

**Introduction** – There are 88 official constellations as determined by the International Astronomical Union. Most of the northern constellations are from Greek Mythology whereas the southern constellations are more recent. The pronunciation of some of the constellations is not readily apparent.

<b>Constellation</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Pronunciation</b>
Andromeda	And	an-DROM-eh-duh
Antlia	Ant	ANT-lih-uh
Apus	Aps	AY-pus
Aquarius	Aqr	ack-KWAIR-ee-us
Aquila	Aql	ACK-will-ah
Ara	Ara	AY-ruh
Aries	Ari	AIR-eez
Auriga	Aur	or-EYE-gah
Bootes	Boo	boe-Oh-teez
Caelum	Cae	SEE-lum
Camelopardis	Cam	ka-MEL-oh-PAR-da-lis
Cancer	Can	KAN-surr
Canes Venatici	CVn	Kay-neeZ ven-AT-iss-see
Canis Major	CMa	Kay-nis MAY-jeer
Canis Minor	CMi	Kay-nis MY-ner
Capricornus	Cap	kap-rih-KORN-nus
Carina	Car	ka-REEN-uh
Cassiopeia	Cas	kass-ee-oh-PEE-yah

Centaurus	Cen	sen-TAW-rus
Cepheus	Cep	SEE-fee-us
Cetus	Cet	SEE-tuss
Chamaeleon	Cha	ka-MEEL-eon
Circinus	Cir	SUR-sin-us
Columba	Col	ko-LUM_bah
Coma Berenices	Com	KO-mah bear-en-EYE-sees
Corona Australis	CrA	kor-OH-nah oss-TRAY-liss
Corona Borealis	CrB	kor-OH-nah bo-ree-ALICE
Corvus	Cor	CORE-vuss
Crater	Crt	KRAY-turr
Crux	Cru	KRUX
Cygnus	Cyg	SIG-nuss
Delphinus	Del	del-FINE-uss
Dorado	Dor	dough-RAH-dough
Draco	Dra	DRAY-ko
Equuleus	Equ	ek-KWOO-lee-us
Eridanus	Eri	eh-RID-ah-nuss
Fornax	For	for-NAX
Gemini	Gem	JEM-in eye
Grus	Gru	GRUSS
Hercules	Her	HER-kyou-leez
Horologium	Hor	hor-o-LO-jee-um
Hydra	Hya	HIGH-druh
Hydrus	Hys	HIGH-drus
Indus	Ind	IN-duss
Lacerta	Lac	la-SIR-tah
Leo	Leo	LEE-oh

Leo Minor	Lmi	LEE-oh MY-ner
Lepus	Lep	LEE-puss
Libra	Lib	LEE-brah
Lupus	Lup	LEW-puss
Lynx	Lyn	LINKS
Lyra	Lyr	LYE-ruh
Mensa	Men	MEN-sah
Microscopium	Mic	my-kro-SKO-pee-um
Monoceros	Mon	mon-OSS-er-us
Musca	Mus	MUS-kah
Norma	Nor	NOR-mah
Octans	Oct	AHK-tahnz
Ophiuchus	Oph	off-ih-YOU-kuss
Orion	Ori	oh-RYE-un
Pavo	Pav	PAH-vo
Pegasus	Peg	PEG-uh-suss
Perseus	Per	PURR-see-us
Phoenix	Phe	FEE-nix
Pictor	Pic	PICK-torr
Pisces	Psc	PIE-sees
Piscis Austrinus	PsA	PIE-siss oss-TRY-nus
Puppis	Pup	PUPP-iss
Pyxis	Pyx	PICK-siss
Reticulum	Ret	ray-TIC-you-lum
Sagitta	Sag	sah-JIT-tah
Sagittarius	Sgr	saj-ih-TAY-rih-us
Scorpius	Sco	SKOR-pih-uss
Sculptor	Scl	SKULPT-tor

Scutum	Sct	SKYOU-tum
Serpens	Ser	SIR-pens
Sextans	Sex	SEX-tans
Taurus	Tau	TAW-russ
Telescopium	Tel	tell-ih-SKO-pee-um
Triangulum	Tri	try-ANGH-gu-lum
Triangulum Australe	TrA	try-ANGH-gu-lum oss-TRAY-lee
Tucana	Tuc	too-KAH-nah
Ursa Major	UMa	URR-sah MAY-jer
Ursa Minor	UMi	URR-sah MY-ner
Vela	Vel	VEE-lah
Virgo	Vir	VER-go
Volans	Vol	VO-lanz
Vulpecula	Vul	vul-PECK-you-lah