

Moon Pages
Moon Sight Pro Forma
Moon Sight Reduction

Moon Sight

Practical Sextant Navigation – Planets, Stars and Moon



The Moon is a quite fast-moving object, making it difficult –but not impossible– to get accurate positions from it.

Sometimes, both the Sun and the Moon are visible in the day sky, allowing a quick two-position-line fix.

Taking a Moon Sight Reduction is much like the Planet Reductions (remember v and d ?), with some additional adjustments (HP and UL/LL) and different tables.

HP

Altitude Corrections

Moon Pages

MoonSight

Moon

	GHA	v	Dec	d	HP
SD = 14.8'					
Tue	GHA	v	Dec	d	HP
0	11°09.3	16.2'	S09°14.4	13.8'	54.5'
1	25°44.5	16.2'	09°28.2	13.7'	54.5'
2	40°19.6	16.1'	09°41.9	13.7'	54.5'
3	54°54.7	16.0'	09°55.6	13.7'	54.5'
4	69°29.8	16.0'	10°09.3	13.6'	54.5'
5	84°04.8	15.9'	10°22.9	13.6'	54.5'
6	98°39.7	15.9'	S10°36.5	13.6'	54.5'
7	113°14.6	15.8'	10°50.1	13.5'	54.5'
8	127°49.4	15.8'	11°03.6	13.5'	54.6'
9	142°24.2	15.7'	11°17.1	13.5'	54.6'
10	156°58.9	15.7'	11°30.6	13.4'	54.6'
11	171°33.6	15.6'	11°44.0	13.4'	54.6'
12	186°08.2	15.5'	S11°57.4	13.4'	54.6'
13	200°42.7	15.5'	12°10.8	13.3'	54.6'
14	215°17.2	15.4'	12°24.1	13.3'	54.6'
15	229°51.6	15.4'	12°37.4	13.2'	54.7'
16	244°26.0	15.3'	12°50.6	13.2'	54.7'
17	259°00.3	15.2'	13°03.8	13.1'	54.7'
18	273°34.5	15.2'	S13°16.9	13.1'	54.7'
19	288°08.7	15.1'	13°30.0	13.1'	54.7'
20	302°42.8	15.0'	13°43.1	13.0'	54.7'
21	317°16.8	15.0'	13°56.1	12.9'	54.7'
22	331°50.7	14.9'	14°09.0	12.9'	54.8'
23	346°24.6	14.8'	14°21.9	12.9'	54.8'
SD = 14.9'					

ALTITUDE CORRECTION TABLES 35° – 90° — MOON
ALTITUDE CORRECTION TABLES 0° – 35° — MOON

App. Alt.	ALTITUDE CORRECTION TABLES 35° – 90° — MOON							App. Alt.	ALTITUDE CORRECTION TABLES 0° – 35° — MOON						
	0°-4°	5°-9°	10°-14°	15°-19°	20°-24°	25°-29°	30°-34°		0°	1°	2°	3°	4°		
00	0.3	0.9	1.5	2.1	2.7	3.3	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
10	0.6	1.2	1.9	2.6	3.3	4.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
20	0.9	1.8	2.7	3.6	4.5	5.4	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
30	1.2	2.4	3.6	4.8	6.0	7.2	8.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
40	1.5	3.0	4.5	6.0	7.5	9.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
50	1.8	3.6	5.4	7.2	9.0	10.8	12.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
60	2.1	4.2	6.3	8.4	10.5	12.6	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
70	2.4	4.8	7.2	9.6	12.0	14.4	16.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
80	2.7	5.4	8.1	10.8	13.5	16.2	18.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
90	3.0	6.0	9.0	12.0	15.0	18.0	21.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		

MOON CORRECTION TABLE						
App. Alt.	0°	1°	2°	3°	4°	HP
00	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
40	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
50	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
60	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
70	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
80	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
90	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

In the Nautical Almanac, in addition to the info on the Daily Pages, two pages are dedicated to the Moon's corrections and DIP.

The correction is in two parts; the first correction is taken from the upper part of the table with argument apparent altitude, and the second from the lower part, with argument HP. In the same column as that from which the first correction was taken. Separate corrections are given in the lower part for lower (L) and upper (U) limbs. All corrections are to be added to apparent altitude, but $50'$ is to be subtracted from the altitude of the upper limb.



Differences from a Planet Sight

Altitude Correction

Horizontal Parallax LL/UL

-30° UL

Moon Sight Pro Forma

MoonSight

MOON SIGHT PRO FORMA	
Date: <input type="text"/>	Moon Mer Pass <input type="text"/> h <input type="text"/> m <input type="text"/> s
EP/DR: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> .X N / S E / W	(1) Long Time <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> LMT time <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Sextant Reading High of Eye <input type="text"/> m Index Error <input type="text"/> on / off	Greenwich Date: <input type="text"/> m <input type="text"/> d Chronometer <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Correction <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> UT Sight <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Sex. Alt. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> .X I.E. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (off +, on -) (2) DIP <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (-/+) Apparent Alt. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(3) GHA h <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> V = <input type="text"/> (+/-) (4) + Incr m <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (4) v' <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (+/-) GHA <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Ass. Long <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> W-/E+ LHA <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> 00' .0
Assumed Latitude <input type="text"/> ° N / S	(3) Decl. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> N / S d = <input type="text"/> (+/-) (4) d' <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (+/-) Decl. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> N / S
(6) SRT Table LHA <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> SAME IF ASS. Lat and Decl are both N or S, CONTRARY when not	
HP <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Ha <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (5) Alt. Corr. Moon <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> (5) HP UL/LL <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> -30° UL <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> True Alt. (Ho) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
Hc (6) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> d' <input type="text"/> (+/-) Z = <input type="text"/>	
Correction (7) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> Decl' rounded to the nearest minute	
Hc <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
Ho <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
Intercept <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> To / Away Zn = <input type="text"/>	

Practical Sextant Navigation v202403



S 60°	16:12	16:11	16:10	03:56	05:18	06:43
Day	Sun			Moon		Age 13-15 92-99%
	Eqn. of Time 00 ^h mm:ss	12 ^h mm:ss	Mer. Pass hh:mm	Mer. Pass. Upper hh:mm	Lower hh:mm	
21	01:18	01:24	11:59	22:34	10:15	
22	01:30	01:35	11:58	23:14	10:54	
23	01:41	01:47	11:58	23:56	11:35	

Lat.	Moonrise			Moonset		
	Sun	Mon	Tue	Sun	Mon	Tue
N 72°	16:50	18:52	21:13	04:17	03:45	03:08
N 70°	16:47	18:39	20:43	04:16	03:51	03:24
N 60°	16:46	18:30	20:31	04:16	03:56	03:26
N 40°	16:31	17:31	18:33	04:09	04:27	04:48
35°	16:30	17:27	18:25	04:08	04:30	04:54
30°	16:29	17:23	18:18	04:07	04:32	04:50
20°	16:28	17:16	18:06	04:06	04:37	05:08
N 10°	16:26	17:10	17:56	04:05	04:40	05:16
0°	16:25	17:04	17:46	04:05	04:44	05:24
S 10°	16:24	16:59	17:36	04:04	04:47	05:32

Upper: Mer Pass at Greenwich
Lower: at 180° Meridian

On April 23, in our N/E position, the Moon is almost full, and visible from ±10.00 am till ± 20.00pm UT.

MOON SIGHT PRO FORMA



Date: April 23, 2024

EP/DR: 16° 48' (N) S
127° 43' (E) W

Sextant Reading: 3.0 m (lower / upper) on/off

Height of Eye: 4.0 m

Index Error: 3.0 on/off

Sex. Alt: 60° 01' .5
I.E.: - 3' .0 (off +, on -)
(2) DIP: 59° 58' .5 (-/+)
Apparent Alt: 59° 55' .0

Assumed Latitude: 17° (N) S

Moon Mer Pass: 23 h 56 m 08 s
(1) Long Time: 08 h 30 m 52 s
LMT time: 15 h 25 m 08 s

Greenwich Date: April 23, 2024

Chronometer: 15 m 25 s 32 d
Correction: 15 m 25 s 32 d
UT Sight: 15 m 25 s 32 d

(3) GHA h: 229° 51' .6 v=15'.4 (+/-)
(4) + Incr m: 6° 05' .6
(4) v': 6' .5 (+/-)
GHA: 236° 03' .7

Ass. Long: 127° 56' .3 W/E+
LHA: 364° 00' .0
- 360° = 004°

(3) Decl.: 12° 37' .4 N/S d=13'.2 (+/-)
(4) d': 5' 6 (+/-)
Decl.: 12° 43' .0 N/S

HP is the Horizontal Parallax factor to find the correction value (see next slide)

Moon					
Tue	GHA	v	Dec	d	HP
0	11°09.3	16.2'	S09°14.4	13.8'	54.5'
1	25°44.5	16.2'	09°28.2	13.7'	54.5'
2	40°19.6	16.1'	00°41.0	13.7'	54.5'
3	55°04.7	15.9'	08°07.8	13.6'	54.6'
4	70°00.0	15.7'	12°10.8	13.3'	54.6'
5	85°05.7	15.4'	12°24.1	13.3'	54.6'
6	100°11.6	15.1'	12°37.4	13.2'	54.7'
7	115°17.7	14.8'	12°50.6	13.2'	54.7'
8	130°24.0	14.5'	13°03.8	13.1'	54.7'
9	145°30.5	14.2'	S13°16.9	13.1'	54.7'
10	160°37.2	13.9'	13°30.0	13.1'	54.7'
11	175°44.1	13.6'	13°43.1	13.0'	54.7'
12	190°51.2	13.3'	13°56.1	12.9'	54.7'
13	205°58.5	13.0'	14°09.0	12.9'	54.8'
14	221°06.0	12.7'	14°21.9	12.9'	54.8'
15	236°13.7	12.4'			
16	251°21.6	12.1'			
17	266°29.7	11.8'			
18	281°38.0	11.5'			
19	296°46.5	11.2'			
20	311°55.2	10.9'			
21	327°04.1	10.6'			
22	342°13.2	10.3'			
23	357°22.5	10.0'			

SD = 14.9'

Moon Sight Planning
Altitude Correction Moon Dip
Daily Pages Moon Tables

Moon Sight 1st Steps

MoonSight



ALTITUDE CORRECTION TABLES 35° – 90° — MOON

App. Alt.	35°-39°	40°-44°	45°-49°	50°-54°
00	56.5	46.9	43.1	42.9
10	56.4	46.8	42.9	42.8
20	56.3	46.7	42.8	42.7
30	56.2	46.5	42.7	42.5
40	56.2	46.4	42.5	42.4
50	56.1	46.3	42.4	42.3
00	56.0	46.2	42.3	42.1
10	55.9	46.0	42.1	41.9
20	55.8	45.9	42.0	41.8
30	55.7	45.8	41.9	41.7
40	55.6	45.7	41.7	41.5
50	55.5	45.5	41.6	41.4
00	55.4	45.4	41.4	41.2
10	55.3	45.3	41.3	41.1
20	55.2	45.2	41.2	41.0
30	55.1	45.0	41.0	40.8
40	55.0	44.9	40.9	40.7
50	55.0	44.8	40.8	40.6
00	54.9	44.6	40.6	40.4
10	54.8	44.5	40.5	40.3
20	54.7	44.4	40.3	40.1
30	54.6	44.2	40.2	39.9
40	54.5	44.1	40.1	39.8
50	54.4	44.0	39.9	39.6
00	54.3	43.9	39.6	39.5
10	54.2	43.7	39.6	39.3
20	54.1	43.6	39.5	39.2
30	54.0	43.5	39.4	39.0
40	53.9	43.3	39.2	38.9
50	53.8	43.2	39.1	38.7

HP	L	U	1	2	3	4	5
54.0	1.1	1.7	1	1.4	2.0	2.6	3.3
54.3	1.4	1.8	1	1.5	2.1	2.7	3.4
54.6	1.7	2.0	1	1.6	2.2	2.8	3.5
54.9	2.0	2.2	1	1.7	2.3	2.9	3.6
55.2	2.3	2.3	1	1.8	2.4	3.0	3.7
55.5	2.7	2.5	1	1.9	2.5	3.1	3.8
55.8	3.0	2.6	1	2.0	2.6	3.2	3.9
56.1	3.3	2.8	1	2.1	2.7	3.3	4.0
56.4	3.6	2.9	1	2.2	2.8	3.4	4.1
56.7	3.9	3.1	1	2.3	2.9	3.5	4.2
57.0	4.3	3.2	1	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.3
57.3	4.6	3.4	1	2.5	3.1	3.7	4.4
57.6	4.9	3.6	1	2.6	3.2	3.8	4.5
57.9	5.2	3.7	1	2.7	3.3	3.9	4.6
58.2	5.5	3.9	1	2.8	3.4	4.0	4.7
58.5	5.9	4.0	1	2.9	3.5	4.1	4.8
58.8	6.2	4.2	1	3.0	3.6	4.2	4.9

The Sextant Altitude Corrections are found in one of the two available tables on the Daily Pages for the Moon.

The sextant reading requires an additional correction for the Horizontal Parallax error. The HP is given on the Daily Moon Pages with the GHA, v, Decl and d.

The corresponding HP correction is found in the Altitude Correction Tables for the Moon in the Nautical Almanac.

Moon Sextant Altitude Correction
HP/UL correction

Moon Sight Reduction

MoonSight

(6) SRT Table: $17^\circ / 12^\circ$ CONTRARY (SAME if Ass. Lat and Decl are both N or S, CONTRARY when not)

LHA: 004°

HP: $54' .7$

Ha: $59^\circ 55' .0$

(5) Alt. Corr. Moon: $39' .0$

(5) HP UL/LL: $2' .8$

-30' UL: $30' .0$

True Alt. (Ho): $60^\circ 06' .8$

Hc' (6): $60^\circ 44' .0$ $d=60 (+/-)$ $Z = 172^\circ$

Correction (7): $-43'$ $60' .43$ (Decl' rounded to the nearest minute)

Hc: $60^\circ 01' .0$

Ho: $60^\circ 06' .8$

Intercept: $7'$ **To** / Away $Z_n = 188^\circ$

(difference Ho and Hc)
 if Ho < Hc, Away
 if Ho > Hc, To