

Visible planets



Mercury is at its best viewing for the year during the evening hours, but by the end of the month it will have moved too close to the Sun to be viewed safely. The innermost planet returns to the morning skies later during June.



Venus also moves into the evening skies but at a slower pace than Mercury. Watch for a close conjunction between the two inner planets toward the end of May.



Mars is visible at sunset low over the western horizon and near the stars of the Gemini Twins.



Dwarf planet Ceres is in the morning skies rising before the Sun rises, but Ceres will be too dim to be visible without some optical assistance.



Jupiter is visible over the southeastern horizon before the Sun rises and begins its retrograde motion during June.



Saturn is to the west from Jupiter and like Jupiter is visible over the southeastern horizon before the Sun rises. Saturn begins its retrograde motion during May.