



Bahtinov Telescope Focusing Mask

User's Manual

Product #608020 for 8", #608021 for 10", #608022 for 12"



WARNING! Never point a telescope at the Sun without a proper solar filter! Do not use this Bahtinov Mask to look at the Sun! Permanent damage to your eye and equipment will result. Block all non-filtered optical components such as viewfinders to prevent concentrated sunlight from passing through. Never allow unattended children to operate or be near a telescope during the day.



Congratulations on your purchase of the Bahtinov Telescope Focusing Mask. This accessory allows you to easily focus your telescope, even when the seeing conditions are turbulent. Please read through these instructions before use.

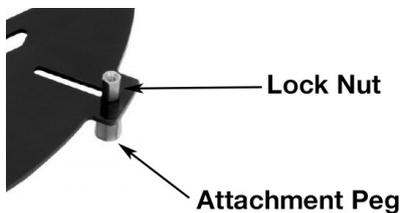


Figure 1. Attachment hardware



Figure 2. Bahtinov Mask installed

Installation

Thread each of the included Lock Nuts and Attachment Pegs onto each of the 3 slotted holes on the mask (Figure 1) so that the Attachment Pegs all face the same side of the mask. On ACF and Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes, place the mask over the front cell of the telescope with the attachment Pegs facing toward the corrector, and the Lock Nuts facing away from the telescope. Slightly loosen the Lock Nuts and position the Attachment Pegs as needed so that all three Attachment Pegs make contact with the inside of the front cell (Figure 2). Meade's Bahtinov Masks do not require mounting to or aligning with the secondary mirror, nor do they require precise centering over the corrector to work properly. This method helps prevent any accidental contact with the corrector glass.

Focusing

Focusing will only take a few seconds with the Bahtinov Mask. With the mask installed:

1. Center a moderately bright star in the telescope.
2. Using your camera (or eyepiece), image/observe the star. Cameras with a live focus or video mode are useful, but taking continuous short exposures will also work for this purpose.

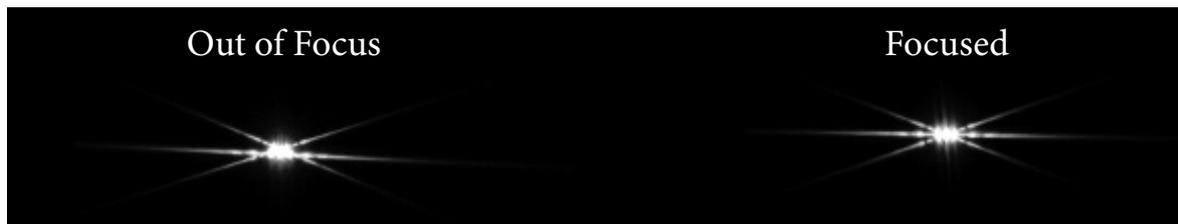


Figure 3. Focused diffraction pattern

3. Focus the telescope until you see a symmetrical diffraction pattern as shown in Figure 3. **Don't forget to remove the mask once you have reached focus!**

Use of Optional L-brackets for model #608022

#608022 was designed to fit 12" ACF and Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes, but it also includes 3 L-brackets which may be used to fit different telescopes for a slightly wider range of apertures. Unthread the Locking Nuts from the Attachment Pegs, then place the L-bracket mounting hole between the Attachment Pegs and Bahtinov Mask and reattach the Locking Nuts (Figure 4). Adjust the distancing as needed so that the L-brackets fit on the outside diameter of the telescope (Figure 5).



Figure 4. Installing L-bracket

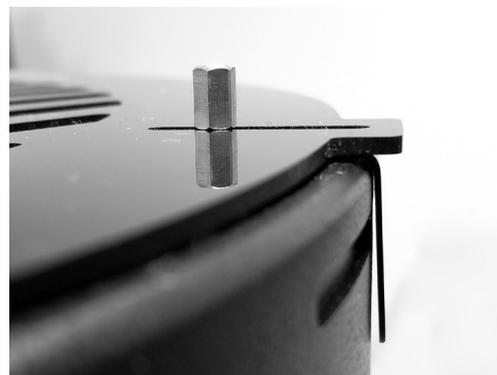


Figure 5. Properly installed L-bracket

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