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H-ALPHA PROMINENCE FILTER SYSTEM

IMPORTANT: INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BEFORE USE!

Both the ERF (Energy Rejection Filter) and HAU (H-Alpha Unit) **MUST** be properly attached to telescope before pointing telescope at the sun. You cannot safely look at the sun with the ERF or HAU separately. Looking at the sun without proper filters can damage your eye in a fraction of a second. The ERF also protects the HAU and telescope optics from excessive solar radiation.

FINDER: Looking at the sun without a proper solar filter can damage your eye in a fraction of a second. If you do not have a solar filter for the finder, keep it covered.

MOUNTING THE ERF AND HAU: The aluminum cell with the ERF simply fits over and around the front of the telescope tube. The off-axis version should be mounted with the filter at or near the 12 O'clock position.

The HAU slides into telescope back or star diagonal. Any 1 1/4" eyepiece can be used, however, we recommend starting each observing session with low magnification, then increasing magnification as desired and as "seeing" conditions allow.

OBSERVING: For optimum performance, the system should be used at f/15 and above. The ERF is sized and mounted in a mask designed for each brand and aperture of telescope to increase the focal ratio. A Barlow lens can be used if necessary to increase the focal ratio further. A Barlow lens may be necessary to reach focus on telescopes with limited focuser travel since the HAU extends focus approximately three inches.

With eyepiece removed, watch the H-Alpha filter while turning the thumbscrew in both directions. Turning the thumbscrew clockwise tilts the filter to the left. Turning the thumbscrew counterclockwise tilts the filter to the right. If the thumbscrew is completely unscrewed from the body, simply screw back in using care not to "double thread." Start observation with filter straight (center of travel). Tilting the filter holder "tunes" the filter to the correct bandpass.

Start with low power and center sun in eyepiece. If no prominence is seen after focusing, slowly turn thumbscrew in either direction. With higher magnification, this procedure should be done on portions of the limb. Activity varies greatly from day to day and even hour to hour. With careful observation, changes can be seen within minutes. An observing cloth is very helpful for blocking ambient light at the eyepiece.