Locate Phad and Dubhe in Ursa Major (in the “bowl” of the Big Dipper or “Plough” section).

That is 10 degrees.

M81 and 82 are 10 degrees from Dubhe, on a similar line.

It is 5 degrees from Dubhe to a point between two 5th magnitude stars.

Continue on towards 24 Ursa Majoris, a 4.5 magnitude star about 12 degrees from Dubhe.

M81 and M82 are about 2 degrees inside 24 UMa from Dubhe.