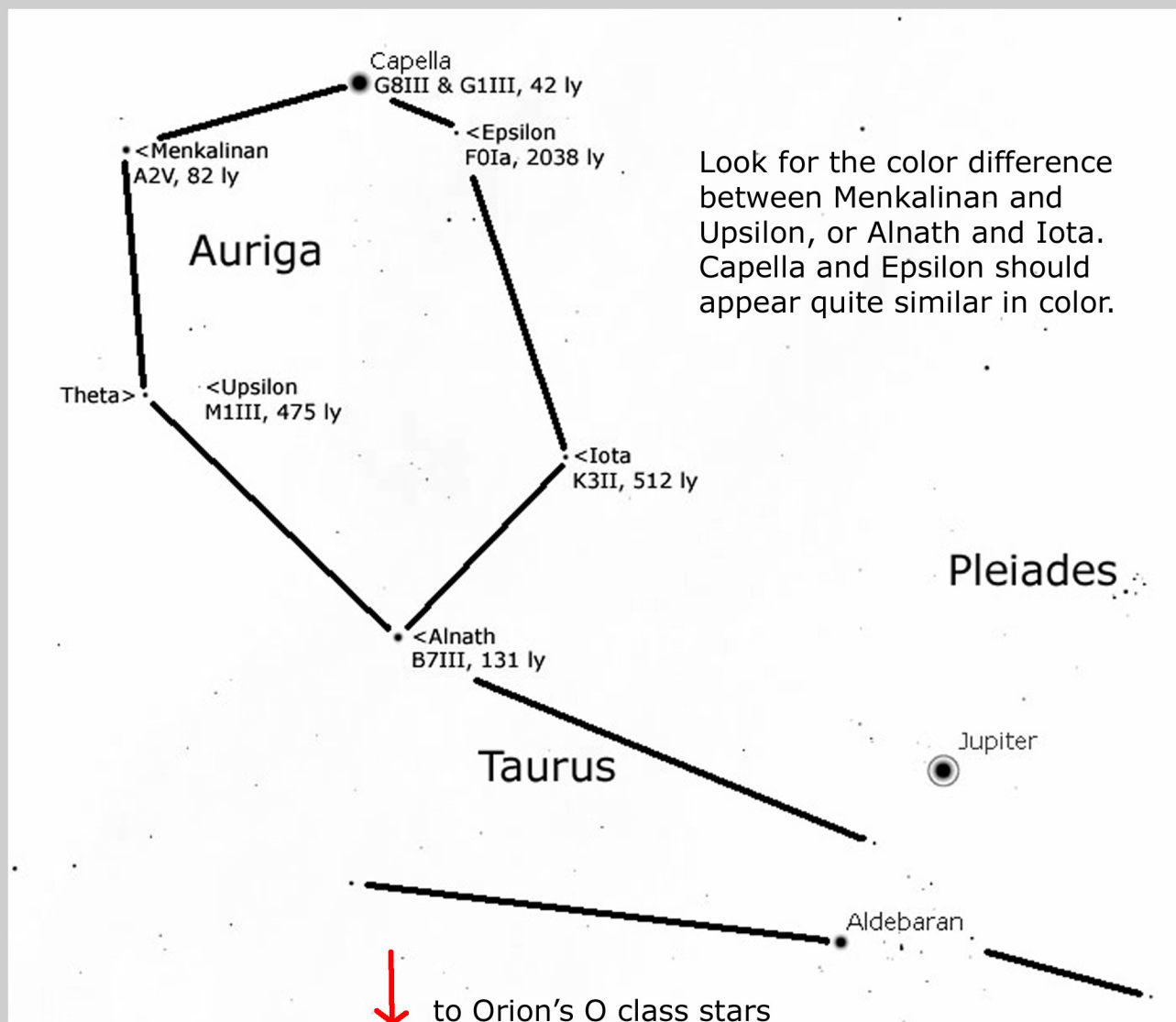


Eyes on the Sky

Keep your eyes on the sky, so you can see what's UP!

Star chart of stellar classifications for Auriga / Taurus



The order of stellar spectral classification is "O, B, A, F, G, K, M" which may be remembered with the mnemonic device, "Oh Be A Fine Girl/Guy Kiss Me."

In general, O class stars are hotter / larger / shorter lived, and M class cooler / smaller / longer lived, though there are exceptions for some red giant stars such as Betelgeuse. Look for the outer belt stars of Orion Alnitak and Mintaka for examples of O-class stars that are large, luminous and also far away at 817 and 916 light years distant, respectively. See the color more effectively by centering these stars and slightly defocusing them.