

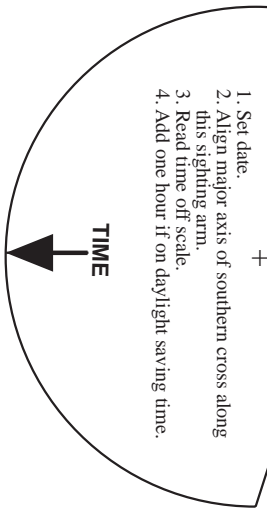
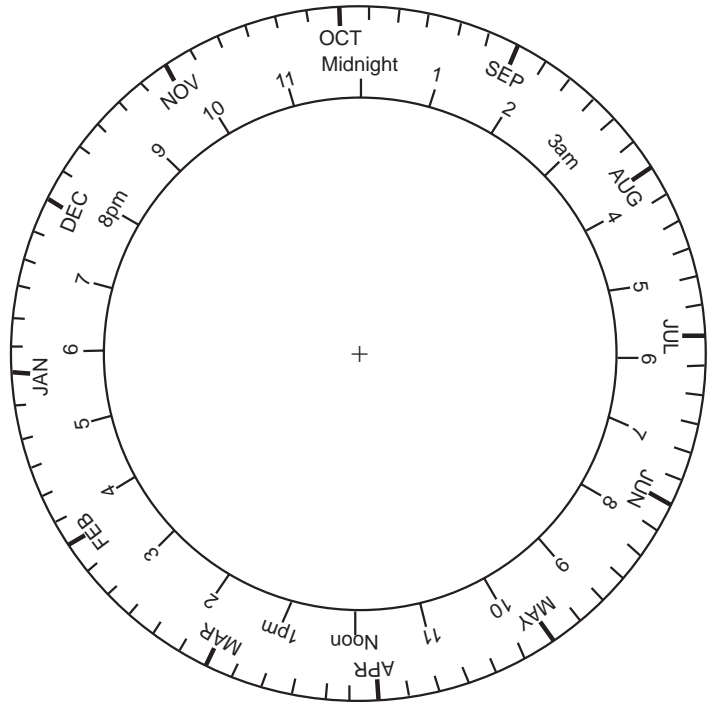
CRUX - CLOCK

(Pronounced 'Crooks' Clock)

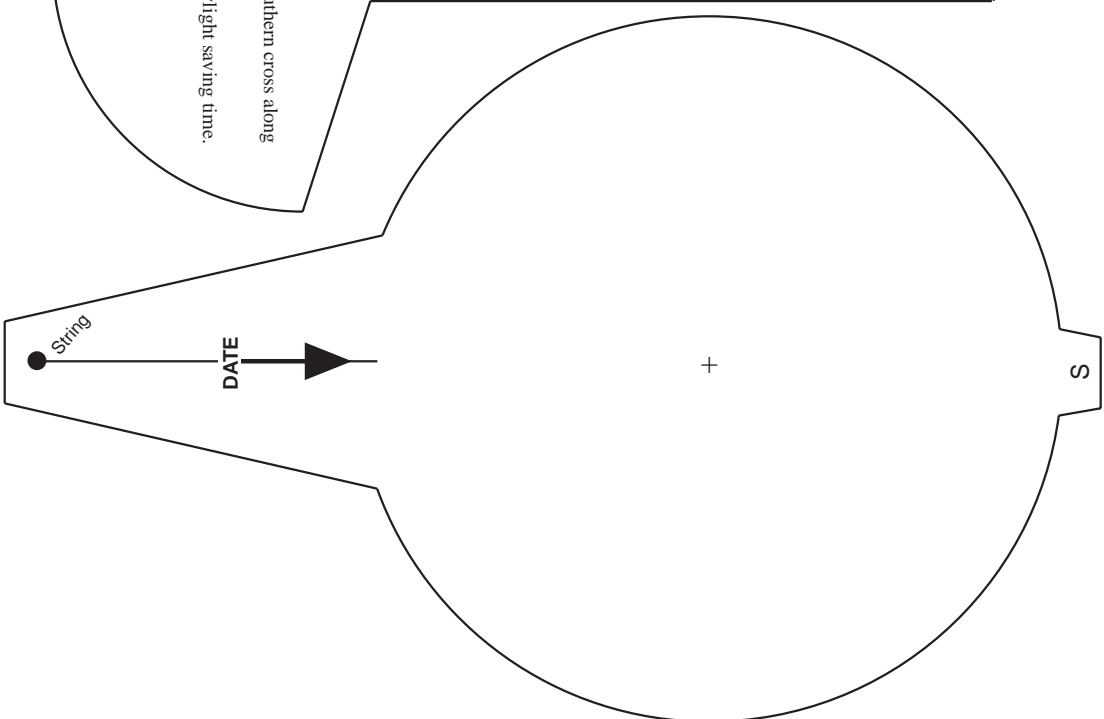
A device for telling the time of night from the Southern Cross.

Assembly Instructions

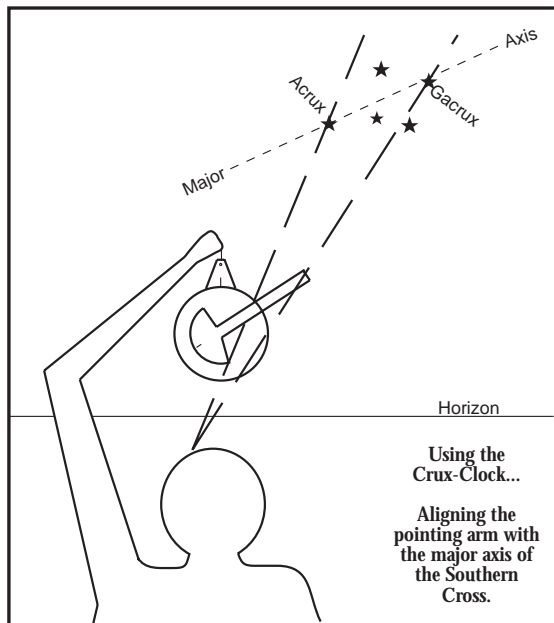
1. Photocopy this page.
2. Glue paper diagram to cardboard. A glue-stick works best.
3. Cut out the 3 solid components with a sharp "stanley knife".
4. Make a pin hole at the 3 places marked "X".
5. With the "S" plate on the bottom, the graduated circle in the middle and the pointing arm on top, push a pin through the 3 holes.
6. Push the pin through a piece of cork at the back to hold the 3 pieces firmly together.
7. Tie a loop of string through the hole indicated.



CRUX-CLOCK



HOW TO USE THE CRUX-CLOCK



To Find the Time

1. Set the date by rotating the graduated wheel. It is a good idea at this stage to fix the wheel in place with a paper clip .
2. Hold the Crux-Clock at arms length by the string so that it hangs freely.
3. Face the Southern Cross and rotate the pointing arm so that it is parallel to the major axis of the Southern Cross. Gacrux should be the outermost star.
4. Read off the time.

Note : The pointing arm is obscured by the back plate when it is pointed directly up. In this case point the arm directly down and alter it to align it with the major axis of the Southern Cross. The resultant time will be 12 hours out. This will be obvious as the time will be a daylight time.



The Southern Cross can be used to tell time. The mental arithmetic is a bit daunting so I have included plans for a "Crux Clock" which you can make to do all the mathematics for you.



Learn to find the southern cross. It is a very useful group of stars and your overseas friends will expect you to be able to point it out.

To help you find other stars I recommend you buy a "Philips Planisphere" from a newsagent or book shop.



When it gets dark most people go inside and watch television, they end up knowing nothing about the night sky.

Generally stars rise in the east and "set" in the west, just the same as the sun does. If you go out at the same time each night, then as the months pass new stars rise in the east and old familiar ones go under the horizon and are not seen for the rest of the year. Eventually the original group of stars are back in the same position as in the previous year.

Generally in the summer months the group of stars known as Orion dominates the night sky. Scorpio takes over in the winter and Pegasus in the late winter and Spring. Orion and Scorpio are very distinctive constellations and you should take the trouble to find them and get acquainted.

The night sky is a friendly place when you know the names of some of the stars. It is like walking into a room where you know most of the people, as distinct from knowing nobody. As you get to know the stars better you will find that they have personalities. Most are white but some glow reddish and others blue. Some are loud and showy others shy and hard to locate. Some are loners and others hang around in a group. Some are there every night and others only visit at a particular time of year.