

Find the Two Innermost Planets Together at Dusk

Shortly after sunset on the evenings of **November 15 & 16**, you will have an opportunity to observe the two innermost planets, Mercury and Venus, low in the southwest. Venus will be higher, much brighter (at magnitude -4.1), and easier to observe.

Shining at a magnitude of -0.2 (36 times fainter than Venus) and only 5° above the horizon, Mercury will be challenging to observe. Finding a location with a view low to the SW and using binoculars will improve your chances of spotting it.

On these November evenings, speedy Mercury reaches greatest elongation east of the Sun and is positioned 92 million miles away (8 light minutes), while brilliant Venus is some 99 million miles away (9 light minutes).

