

## UW ZONNEWIJZER OP MAAT THE SUN SHINES FOR EVERYONE

## Find the zodiac sign of the sun

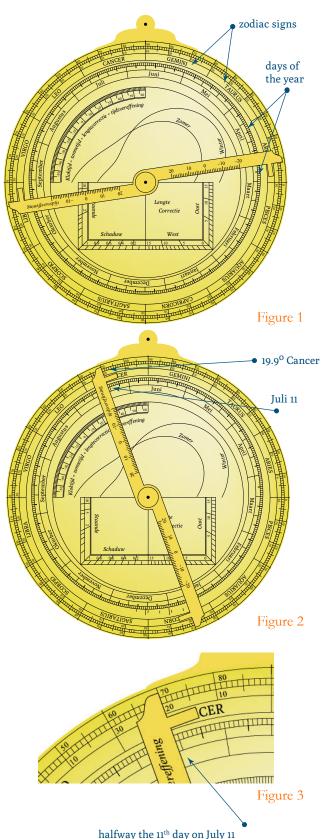
It is important to understand the difference between a zodiac constellation and the zodiac sign. Numerous constellations can be found in the starry sky, such as the Big Dipper, Orion or Taurus. The sun passes in front of a number of constellations every year. These are the constellations of the zodiac. When the sun is in the constellation Gemini, it is meant that this is actually the case in the starry sky.

The same names are used for the zodiac signs as for the constellations. However, the definition is different, each sign occupies 30 degrees (one twelfth) of the sun's annual motion. The start of the seasons coincides with the start of the signs: winter starts with Capricorn, spring starts with Aries, summer starts with Cancer and autumn starts with Libra. See the table below.

ъ	Capricorn	about 21 dec t/m 19 jan
$\aleph$	Aquarius	about 20 jan t/m 18 feb
)(	Pisces	about 19 feb t/m 19 mrt
$\Upsilon$	Aries	about 20 mrt t/m 18 apr
ö	Taurus	about 19 apr t/m 19 mei
$\prod$	Gemini	about 20 mei t/m 20 jun
ව	Cancer	about 21 jun t/m 21 jul
$\mathcal{N}$	Leo	about 22 jul t/m 21 aug
m	Virgo	about 22 aug t/m 21 sep
Ω	Libra	about 22 sep t/m 22 okt
M,	Scorpio	about 23 okt t/m 21 nov
1	Sagittarius	about 22 nov t/m 20 dec

## Setting the astrolabe

Figure 1 shows the back of the astrolabe. Visible are a circle with the days of the year and a circle with the zodiac signs. Suppose you want to know the position of the sun in the zodiac sign on July 11 at noon, mid-day. You set the ruler to the middle of the 11th day in July. See figure 2 and the detail in figure 3. The sun is at about 19.9° in the zodiac sign Cancer. Note: The long 10th dash in July means the 10th day is over and the 11th day begins.



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