



0. HUBBLE GETS GLASSES - Story Preface

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Before Hubble's mirror was repaired, the orbiting telescope had blurry vision. This "before/after" image reflects "the fix." NASA tells us more: "This comparison image of the core of galaxy M100 shows the dramatic improvement in the Hubble telescope's view of the universe. The new image (right) was taken with the second generation Wide Field and Planetary Camera (WFPC2), which was installed during the STS-61 Hubble Servicing Mission." Credit: [NASA](#), [STScl](#).

To fix Hubble's blurry vision, NASA sent the shuttle *Endeavour* on a repair trip in December of 1993. The mission - [STS-61](#) - was the fifty-ninth time a shuttle was launched into space.

During the eleven-day trip, astronauts set a record of five space walks, spanning more than thirty-five hours. They worked on the telescope as it was "docked" in the shuttle's payload bay.

Astronauts have made four more trips to Hubble, upgrading, servicing and then releasing one of the world's most treasured sources of space information. A famous picture of the telescope, as it appears during its working state, was taken in February, 1997, as the shuttle *Discovery* neared the orbiting observatory.

Atlantis, in mission STS-125, made a "final" repair trip to the orbiting space telescope. A risky mission, due to space debris in Hubble's orbit, NASA officials ordered *Endeavour* to stand-by - on the launch pad - in case *Atlantis*, or the crew, encountered difficulties.

After Hubble's vision was corrected, it began to send clear electronic images to its base in Maryland. One of the most stunning is of the Eagle Nebula - also called M16 - in the Serpens constellation.

What, exactly, is a nebula? And...what are some of the most notable?

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

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Hubble - Repairs in Space

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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Hubble Repairs

Image online, courtesy NASA.

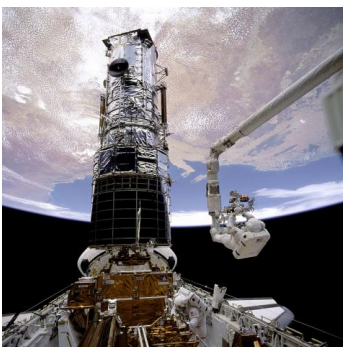
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Shuttle Docked with Hubble

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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Space Shuttle Endeavour Docked with Hubble

NASA/STScI photo, online courtesy NASA.

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Shuttle Solar Arrays

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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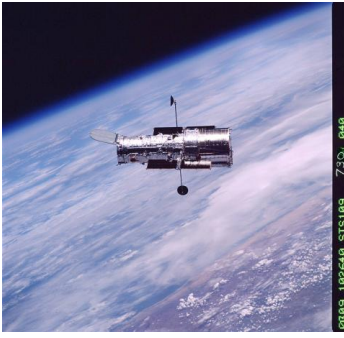


Astronaut Michael Massimino Working on Hubble

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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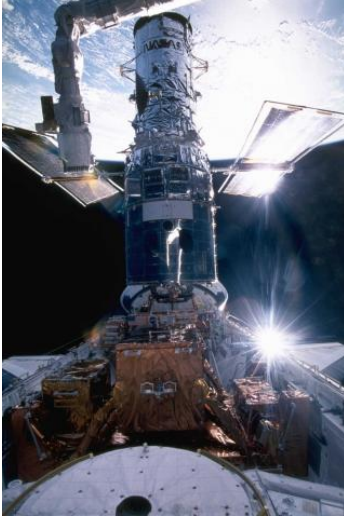


Shuttle View of Hubble Orbiting Telescope

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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Hubble - Servicing the Orbiting Telescope in Space

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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Deploying Hubble from the Shuttle

Image online, courtesy the National Geographic website via NASA.

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Hubble - Source of Information about Space

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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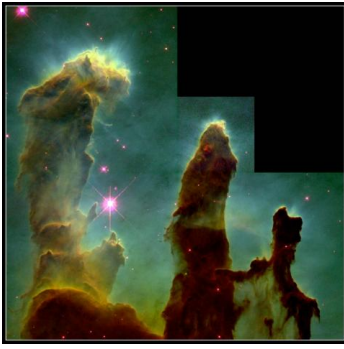


Hubble - Its Working-State Configuration

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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Eagle Nebula - An Early Image from Hubble

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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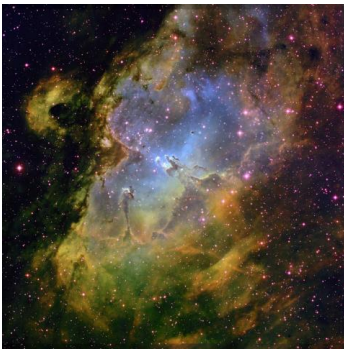


Eagle Nebula - Stunning Hubble Image with Identifiers

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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M16 - Eagle Nebula Image

Image online, courtesy NASA.

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HUBBLE GETS GLASSES

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Hubble Telescope - Vision Repair

Online, courtesy NASA.

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