

See it
Safely

The GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE

THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF SAFE SOLAR VIEWING

Do-Check the Weather:

- ✓ • Make sure the sky is clear of clouds for a clear view of the Sun.
- Find a stable and comfortable spot with a clear, unobstructed view of the Sun.

Don't-Look Directly at the Sun:

- ⊘ • Never look directly at the Sun without appropriate eye protection. This can cause severe eye damage.

Do-Use Proper Eye Protection:

- ✓ • Put on your solar viewing glasses or welder's goggles before looking at the Sun.
- Ensure that there are no scratches or damage to the lenses of your protective eyewear.



Don't-Use Regular Sunglasses:

- ⊘ • Standard sunglasses do not offer sufficient protection against the Sun's harmful rays.
- If your solar viewing glasses or goggles become scratched or damaged, replace them immediately.

Don't-Binoculars and Telescopes:

- ⊘ • If you want to use binoculars or a telescope, make sure to attach a solar filter to the front lens.
- Never look through them without proper filtering.
- Do not use your camera or smartphone without a proper solar filter either, as they can concentrate sunlight and damage the device or your eyes.

DO-HAVE FUN OBSERVING!



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For accommodations, contact
Inclusion and ADA Support at
703-324-8563. TTY: Va. Relay 711.



Fairfax County Park Foundation

Safe Solar Viewing Methods

Pin Hole Mirror Projection Method

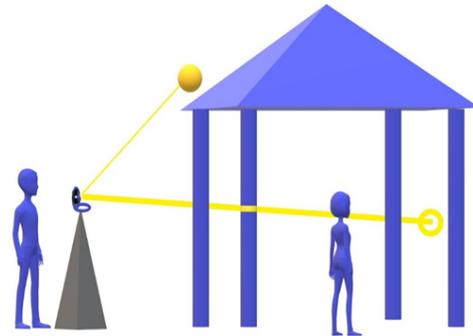
The projection method allows you to safely view the Sun and observe any sunspots (dark spots on the Sun's surface) that might be visible during periods of solar activity.

Materials Needed:

- One small mirror
- Tape or foil
- Optional tripod dark room or shady spot.

Steps:

1. Tape the mirror leaving a small, square hole (about 3/8 inch or 2 cm) in the center of it.
1. Set up outside where there is a shady spot or window to project into.
2. Hold the mirror or attach to a camera tripod so that the Sun is shining directly onto the hole. This will project an image of the Sun.
3. Point the reflected beam into the shady spot. You will see an image of the Sun you can project on a wall or screen.
4. Adjust the distance between the viewing surface mirror focus the image.
5. Try projecting on to your friend and taking a selfie.
6. If you don't have a mirror you can use a piece of thick paper with a tiny hole made by a tack to see the changing shape of the sun on the ground.



Colander Method

The projection method allows you to safely view the Sun and observe any sunspots (dark spots on the Sun's surface) that might be visible during periods of solar activity.

Materials Needed:

- Colander with many holes
- Smooth surface (e.g., white cardboard, paper, or the ground)
- Clear view of the Sun during the eclipse

Steps:

1. Wait for the solar eclipse.
2. Hold the colander above the surface, facing away from the Sun.
3. Observe multiple crescent-shaped images of the partially eclipsed Sun projected on the surface below.

