

Baader Planetarium Safety Herschel Wedge, Safety and Useage



A Herschel Wedge Solar Prism is a professional tool for the serious Amateur, and delivers the absolute finest true white light high-resolution and high-contrast views possible from your telescope. The first surface uncoated reflective design results in a pure white light view, with no selective filtration, permitting you to see solar detail in the natural color or to permit further selective filtration in any wavelength desired. The Baader Planetarium Herschel Wedge Solar Prism is, in our opinion, the finest ever produced, using a Zeiss prism and other proprietary features to reduce scattered light to an absolute minimum. The solar disk will be seen against a jet-black background with granulation, spot detail and fine contrasts that you never imagined.

As with any solar viewing system (including glass or solar film objective solar filters), the Herschel Wedge Solar Prism requires responsible handling. Herschel wedge prisms have been used by professionals and amateurs for many years, and are quite safe if some care and precautions are always observed. Be sure to read and understand all precautions before placing the prism into use. If you have any questions or doubts, please contact Alpine Astronomical (support@alpineastro.com) or ourselves, being the manufacturer - **Baader Planetarium** (www.baader-planetarium.de). Safety warnings are also listed on the Warning Plate found on the side of the prism. Please do not remove this plate.

Precautions:

1. NEVER remove the 1:1000 (D=3) neutral density filter. This filter is absolutely required for all visual use of the prism. The filter comes already pre-mounted from the factory at the front of the 2" eyepiece holder, and is permanently fixed into the holding cell. Important: Before each and every use, check to ensure that the filter is in place and securely mounted in the prism (not loose, cracked, or broken).
2. The Baader Light Trap renders the output beam harmless to the touch or sight. Please ensure the light trap screen is in place before each use, and encourage onlookers not to poke at or insert any objects up into the output area. The energy from the prism still must first contact the screen, and a careless prodding finger can possibly be inserted into this narrow region where the beam still has enhanced intensity.
3. Never leave the telescope outside unattended during use (a requirement for any solar viewing with any solar filtration device).
4. Prior to using any long accessories (barlows, etc) please first check and ensure that they do not protrude so far as to contact the internal 1:1000 neutral density filter. This will prevent the possibility for damage to the filter.

General Use:

1. As supplied, the prism is ready for use. The 1:1000 filter (D=3) neutral density filter that comes permanently mounted in the prism is absolutely required for safe use.
2. Though not required for safe viewing, we also recommend adding one of the additional neutral density filters provided, onto your eyepiece or eyepiece reducer (never at the front input of the prism). This will reduce the intensity for best viewing and contrast.
3. A polarizing filter may also be used on the eyepiece to provide variable adjustment of brightness (the Herschel prism is partially polarizing). By rotating the eyepiece, you can easily adjust the intensity to your taste.
4. Only use the Herschel Solar Prism with refracting telescopes. Reflecting telescopes may be damaged by the concentrated energy at their secondary mirrors.
5. When using auxiliary optics (barlows, telecompressors, etc), always place them After the Herschel - Not Ahead of the Herschel. Any optic placed ahead of the Herschel would be exposed to unfiltered solar energy and may be damaged by the potential heat buildup.



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