

Image: A hubble cosmic couple

August 24 2015



Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA, Acknowledgement: Judy Schmidt

Here we see the spectacular cosmic pairing of the star Hen 2-427—more commonly known as WR 124—and the nebula M1-67 which surrounds it. Both objects, captured here by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope are found in the constellation of Sagittarius and lie 15,000 light-years away.

The star Hen 2-427 shines brightly at the very center of this explosive image and around the hot clumps of surrounding gas that are being ejected into space at over 93,210 miles (150,000 km) per hour.

Hen 2-427 is a Wolf–Rayet star, named after the astronomers Charles Wolf and Georges Rayet. Wolf–Rayet are super-hot [stars](#) characterized by a fierce ejection of mass.

The [nebula](#) M1-67 is estimated to be no more than 10,000 years old—just a baby in astronomical terms—but what a beautiful and magnificent sight it makes.

Provided by NASA

Citation: Image: A hubble cosmic couple (2015, August 24) retrieved 7 July 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-08-image-hubble-cosmic-couple.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.