

The moon on 12 August 2012, at U.K. time 5.20 a.m., looking east, 20 minutes before sunrise:



I took this photo.

The moon was quite high up in the sky, and to the right of the sun (ahead of it in motion). The crescent is pointing towards the direction of the sun, because it is the sun which is illuminating it.

Tomorrow (13 August) at the same time the crescent will be thinner and closer to the rising sun.

Over the following two to three days, looking at the same time, it will become thinner and thinner, and closer and closer to the sun at sunrise time.

After that, at sunrise, it will become impossible to see it because it will be too close to the sun. When it reaches the same position as the sun, it becomes *astronomically new*.

After that, its position will be to the left of the sun, and quite close to it. When that happens we then look for it at *sunset* time because it will be following the sun, and not be ahead of it. At sunset, that day, or a day or two later, just after the sun has set, the crescent will be seen just above the sun, if the weather is clear.

Again, the crescent will be pointing towards the direction of the sun, i.e. downwards and to the right.

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