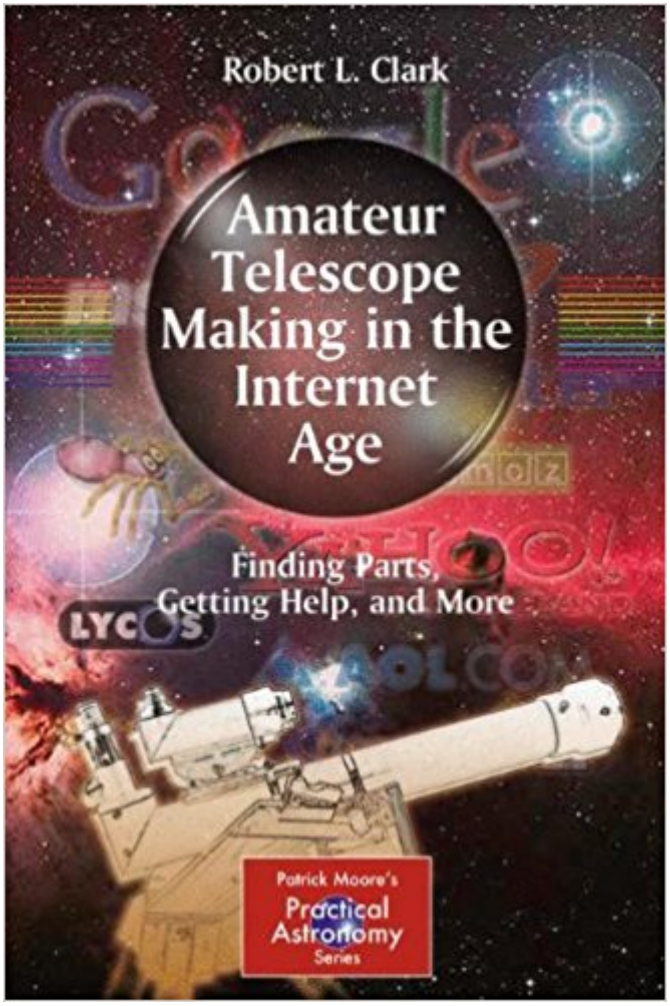
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Amateur Telescope Making In The Internet Age: Finding Parts, Getting Help, And More (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series)



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Synopsis

Building an astronomical telescope offers the amateur astronomer an exciting challenge, with the possibility of ending up with a far bigger and better telescope than could have been afforded otherwise. In the past, the starting point has always been the grinding and polishing of at least the primary mirror, a difficult and immensely time-consuming process. But now that the Internet has brought us together in a global village, purchasing off-the-shelf goods such as parabolic mirrors, eyepieces, lenses, and telescope tubes, is possible. There are also a vast number of used mirrors and lenses out there, and it is now possible to track them down almost anywhere in the world. Online stores and auction houses have facilitated commerce regarding all sorts of useful optical components at a reasonable price. This is a book about making telescopes from available parts. It provides guidance on where to look and what to look for in selecting items useful for telescope making and explains how to assemble these components to produce an excellent instrument on a tight budget. At one time, many amateurs made their own telescopes from home-made parts. In today's rushed world, that has almost become a lost art. The Internet offers a wonderful alternative to either buying a pricey scope fully assembled or making your own from scratch.

Book Information

Series: The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series
Paperback: 208 pages
Publisher: Springer; 2011 edition (October 26, 2010)
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Best Sellers Rank: #1,718,058 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Telescopes #166 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Experiments, Instruments & Measurement > Scientific Instruments #563 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Experiments, Instruments & Measurement > Experiments & Projects

Customer Reviews

From the reviews:Ã¢â ¬Å“The book is packed with help and advice; given pre-made optics, thereÃ¢â ¬â„¢s advice on building a simple rich-field refractor through larger refractors and

reflectors of various types, along with making all the essential parts and accessories, from tubes to mirror cells, focusers to spiders Ã¢â ¬Â¦. In summary, the book contains an eclectic mix of projects, from which the amateur telescope maker is likely to glean some perfectly good ideas.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Peter Grego, Popular Astronomy, July-August, 2011)Ã¢â ¬Å“The book contains everything you need to consider when building a telescope from your own Ã¢â ¬Ëœscrap Ã¢â ¬â„¢; how to assess optics, design considerations and many wrinkles that assist the amateur telescope maker to meet and even exceed the engineering tolerances of commercial telescope manufacturers. This is a hugely useful book for anyone with a modicum of engineering skill Ã¢â ¬Â¦. If you have an old photocopier lens in the loft, or any unused lens looking for a noble purpose, this book is for you.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Steve Ringwood, Astronomy Now, September, 2011)

The Internet Age is changing everything about human invention and the use of technology. The change has been compared to that of the introduction of printing. Making your own telescope isn Ã¢â ¬â„¢t what it used to be, either, thanks partly to the Internet. The old days of grinding and polishing are gone Ã¢â ¬â œ unless you want to do it! You can now assemble a great instrument from a wide range of affordable Internet-available components, new or used. The Internet is the new parts Ã¢â ¬Å“junkyard,Ã¢â ¬Â• with stuff from all over the world for you to pick through, day or night. In this book you will find out what Ã¢â ¬â„¢s generally available and how to access it. You will learn how to evaluate optical components and combine them from diverse Internet sources. You will get many ideas on how to make the parts that you don Ã¢â ¬â„¢t buy or scrounge and how to restore old lenses and mirrors. And you will learn some elementary physics of designing ergonomic Ã¢â ¬â œ comfortable Ã¢â ¬â œ telescopes. Navigating your way around the possibilities is easy using this valuable and timely resource. With Robert Clark Ã¢â ¬â„¢s help you can get the best that the Internet has to offer. Get started now!

Addresses several different types of telescopes, but none in adequate depth. Best for those who wish to build a telescope out of wood.Diagrams are poor quality photos, and it is often unclear what the author is referring to when looking at them.Tables are largely unlabeled, so it’s difficult to tell what they are trying to convey.

Great book! I intend to us3e it to get into stellar astronomy

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