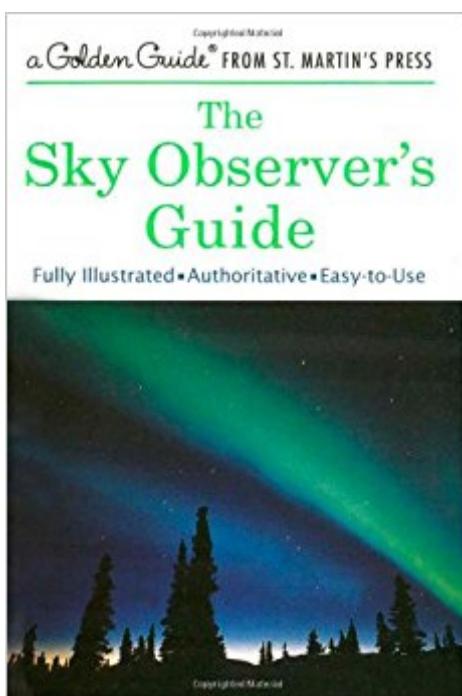


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The Sky Observer's Guide: A Fully Illustrated, Authoritative And Easy-to-Use Guide (A Golden Guide From St. Martin's Press)



Synopsis

Filled with practical information for the amateur astronomer, this Golden Guide explains:-How to select and use binoculars and telescopes-How to best observe stars, the moon, planets, comets, meteors, and other celestial objects-How to use star chartsProfusely illustrated with photographs, diagrams, charts, and tables, this guide is recommended by leading astronomers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Golden Guides first appeared in 1949 and quickly established themselves as authorities on subjects from Natural History to Science. Relaunched in 2000, Golden Guides from St. Martin's Press feature modern, new covers as part of a multi-year, million-dollar program to revise, update, and expand the complete line of guides for a new generation of students.

My dad gave me The Sky Observer's Guide in 1968. I enjoyed this book so much that I read it every night and now my old guide has very many signs of wear. Then I decided to buy a new and updated guide, and thanks to I bought a new book. Unfortunately, the book was not updated and the tables of ephemeris are outdated. But all the other informations continue to be valid and this guide is a classic for beginning in Astronomy.

This really IS outdated. They project certain astronomical events into the "future" and the projections end in 1990. I still have the original I got as a kid in the 60s. and there's not a word about digital

cameras or modern computerized mounts. That being said, much of it is timeless.

good book

Good, basic intro guide.

Actually, I have read other resources that explained things a bit better than this, but it will do. I'm sure that once a novice has familiarized themselves with the terms, the book would be more of an advantage, but, it was not entirely helpful to me.

The content of the book is great.. However, keep in mind it's from the 50's and this book I received was printed in the 80's.. Super small in physical size, and it looked worn out and had some scratches.

This so-called "Guide" is anything but. The Planet Locations chart on page 92 ends at the year 1990 (!), and this book still considers Pluto a planet (which I think it is, but for the moment I've been outvoted). The Observer's Equipment section is a joke, ignoring such "modern" (last thirty years or much more) advances such as Dobsonian and Schmidt Cassegrain telescopes, red-dot finder sights, computer guided mounts, etc. The sky information is compact and confusing, especially for a beginner. The crater numbering on the Moon chart on page 58-59 can't be read. The Sun section is way out of date. The maps of the heavens starting on page 148 are lousy -- they make even the antiquated Norton's Star Atlas look good. No one with a budding interest in Astronomy would get much of anything out of this relic, except frustration. The publisher should be ashamed.

I bought my first edition back in the late 1970's. I bought this copy for my nephew. This book covers the basics of optics, teaching you how to calculate magnification with your objective's focal length, and the eyepiece focal length; it covers the basics of planetary, and interstellar objects; it covers safe, solar observation techniques; it gives a basic overview of astrophotography (film based, but film offers advantages over CCD's -- many techniques apply to both approaches anyway); it even includes some star charts to get the amateur started. For the basics of amateur astronomy, this book cannot be beat. I recommend it to anyone interested in the subject. Cheers!

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