

100 Projects, Activities & Explorations in Astronomy

Fred Schaaf

C. R. Kitchin, Robert W. Forrest

Seeing the Sky Fred Schaaf, 2013-09-05 Discover the fascination of astronomy with 100 easy inexpensive projects that promise loads of fun for sky watchers of all ages Geared toward beginning astronomers from junior high school level and up this entertaining guide was written in direct nontechnical terms by an experienced astronomer and well known author Daylight and nighttime activities include sightings of comets meteors stars and planets as well as phases of the Moon halos twilights and many other intriguing phenomena These interesting instructive activities and projects require just the naked eye and ordinary household materials In addition to a wealth of activities for families to enjoy together Seeing the Sky also offers a fine resource for classrooms astronomy clubs nature societies and other groups This updated edition features a new Preface two new tables and a revised Sources of Information list that includes current websites **Seeing Stars** C. R. Kitchin, Robert W. Forrest, 2012-12-06 Seeing Stars is written for astronomers regardless of the depth of their theoretical knowledge who are taking their first steps in observational astronomy Chris Kitchin and Bob Forrest both professional astronomers take a conducted tour of the night sky and suggest suitable observing programmes for everyone from beginners to experts How is this book different We are all familiar with the beautiful images of planets and galaxies obtained by spacecraft and giant telescopes but what can you really see with a small telescope What should you expect from a small refractor or reflector And what is the effect of observing from a site near a city The answers are all here with many photographs that will illustrate exactly what can be seen with different instruments everything from the naked eye to a 300mm telescope and from different locations An Intimate Look at the Night Sky Chet Raymo, 2003-04-01 A star guide features twenty four star maps that cycle through the seasons and across the heavens revealing what one can see with the naked eye throughout the year on a clear night in the Northern Hemisphere **Astronomy** Samuel Kazlow, 2014-07-15 Astronomy is one of the oldest natural sciences From ancient times people have recorded methodical observations of objects in the night sky and attempted to understand the mysteries of the universe This title provides an engaging and up to date presentation of fundamental astronomy facts and principles The text clearly explains the nature of celestial bodies such as the planets dwarf planets stars moons asteroids and comets It also examines the tools and techniques used by today s astronomers including high tech telescopes spectroscopy and computer modeling Enhanced with illuminating images this title is an ideal introduction to astronomy for a range of readers Subject Guide to Books in Print ,1997 Illustrated Dictionary of Practical Astronomy C. R. Kitchin, 2012-12-06 The purpose of this book is two fold Firstly to provide a handy quick source of ref erence of the terms techniques instruments formulas processes etc for practising observers whether it is their first look through someone else s small telescope or whether they have spent decades building their own instruments observing with them and are regularly producing results to rival those of the professionals It is not principally aimed at professional observers but in order to be sufficiently compre hensive for its intended audience many entries have been

included which will be relevant at that level In particular though the more esoteric parts of spectroscopy have not been included References to specific observatories are included if their instrumentation includes optical telescopes over 1 m in diameter or radio dishes over 20 m Individual entries for telescopes of 4 m or over are included and for the larger radio instruments plus other telescopes that may be of interest for historical or other reasons for example the 1m Yerkes refractor Spacecraft have generally not been included apart from the Hubble space telescope because their short working lives mean that most current spacecraft will no longer be operating by the time that this book is published Also the names of spacecraft are frequently changed after launch making it difficult to identify which mission is which References to commercial organisations and to some widely available commercial products have been included but an intending purchaser should always obtain up to date information

Out of the Blue John Naylor, 2002-09-26 A 24 hour practical guide to skywatching

**Telescopes and Techniques** Christopher R. Kitchin,2012-12-06 Chris Kitchin has written an easy to read book explaining how to use a small telescope and find your way around the sky Covering all the basic topics telescopes optics positions and motion observing and instruments Telescopes and Techniques has been designed as an introduction for anyone wanting a firm grounding in the essentials of astronomy Whether you are an amateur astronomer an undergraduate student or just someone who wants to learn more about this fascinating subject Telescopes and Techniques is an ideal place to start

Photo-quide to the Constellations C. R. Kitchin, 2012-12-06 l hope that people all around the world never forget what a wonderful thing it is to lie on your back and look up at the stars Pete Seeger What is the fascination that constellations hold for people There are probably as many different answers to that question as there are people For many though the constella tions are the stepping off point into the fabulous mind bending discoveries and concepts of modern astronomy For others it is their long and intriguing history that beckons For some people the constellations provide the means for navigation and orientation over the surface of the Earth and of course there are the millions who place some faith in horo scopes But for most people the patterns in the sky are a beautiful part of their environ ment to be treasured alongside the forests fields and rivers that make life worth living However just as we are losing our green environment to pollution so we are losing our sky The glow from cities across the world swamps the stars in the night sky Astronomers have had to retreat to remote mountain tops to escape that light pollution The rest of us must make do with what is available From the centre of a city or any other brightly lit area probably no stars at all will be visible even on the clearest of nights From the suburbs the brighter stars should normally be seen Telescopes and Techniques C. R. Kitchin, 2012-12-06 The modern aspiring astronomer is faced with a bewil dering choice of commercially produced telescopes including all the designs considered in the preceding chapter Yet only four decades ago the choice for a small telescope would have been between just a refrac tor and a Newtonian reflector That change has come about because of the enormous interest that has grown in astronomy since the start of the space age and with the mind boggling discoveries of the past 30 or 40 years Except for some of the very small instruments

which are unfortunately often heavily promoted in general mail order catalogues camera shops and the like the optical quality of these commercially pro duced telescopes is almost uniformly excellent Although one product may be slightly better for some types of observation or more suited to the personal cir cumstances of the observer than another most of them will provide excellent observing opportunities The same general praise cannot be applied however to the mountings with which many of these telescopes are provided and those problems are covered in Chapter 6

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