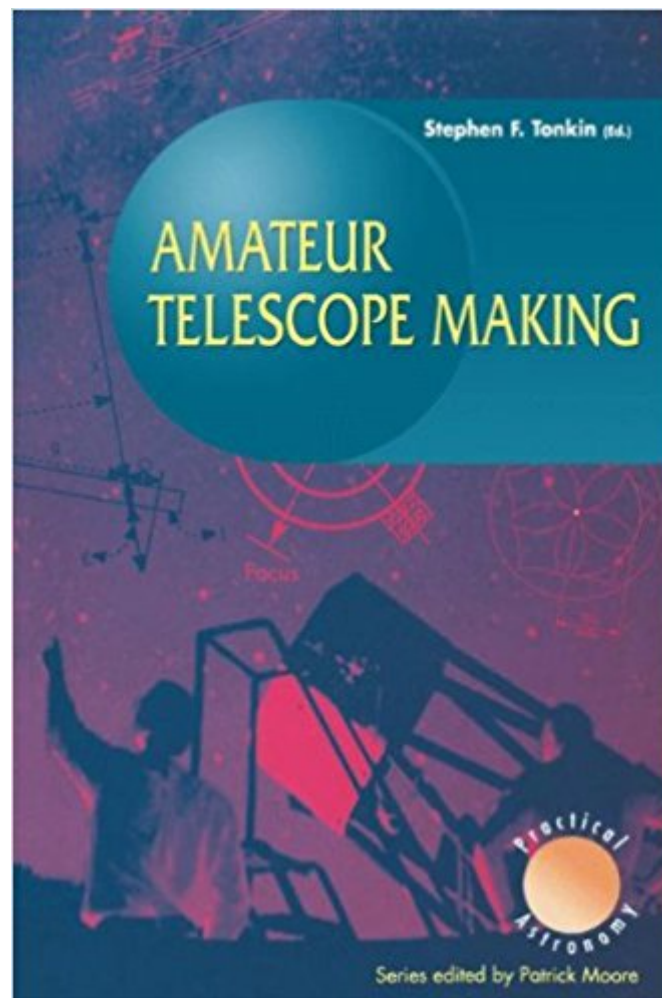




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Amateur Telescope Making (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series)



Synopsis

This book provides an introduction to the design of a variety of telescopes, mounts, and drives suitable for the home-constructor. Projects include instruments that range from a shoestring budget to specialist devices that are not commercially available. The skill level of each project is indicated and advice is provided as to what is sensible to construct, given what is commercially available. Hints and tips are included, as well as listings of reputable mail order sources of materials and components.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

From the reviews"... Stephen Tonkin (has) added a worthy contribution to the collective wisdom of amateur astronomy" SKY & TELESCOPE "Tonkin has assembled a potpourri of excellent do-it-yourself projects, ranging from small refractors and simple rich-field telescopes to large instruments with tilted-component optics and a high-performance, home-built, computer-controlled telescope - will appeal strongly to mid-level amateur astronomers, whether they are equipment buyers or builders. Novices should find much to marvel at, and advanced amateurs will appreciate the useful and timely insights into the current technology of telescopes and sensors - [a] worthy addition to the ever-growing literature of telescopes and telescope making." REVIEWS OF ASTRONOMICAL TOOLS "The book is a nice collection of interesting ideas on telescopes and accessories for the do-it-yourself

astronomer. • NEW SCIENTIST" For advice on how to get going, look no further than two excellent books • AMATEUR TELESCOPE MAKING and ASTRONOMICAL EQUIPMENT FOR AMATEURS • Highly recommended. •

great for building ideas.

If you want to build your own mirror and telescope step-by-step with mirror grinding techniques you'll need another book. This book shows how the user should build a telescope but doesn't explain in details how the user can achieve such results. This book is good for someone which needs know a bit more about telescope's mounting and projects and had built their telescope already. You can use it as a manual, getting useful tips with it. :-/

The book is not a clear, step by step book. It could stand major revisions.

A general summary of articles found on the internet. Save your money

This is an edited book with different authors contributing an article each. Thus there is no coherency. It seems that the editor had asked each contributing author to just give an article about his or her telescope making experience. Thus all the chapters are separate entities without any cross-references (between chapters). Finally they do not go in any detail what so ever. It is more like a "1001 Project Book" which claims that (after reading the book) you can do every thing from repairing cars, TVs, VCR, DVDs to building an airplane, except that the book only devote half a page to all the 1001 projects. You just cannot make a telescope by reading this book (unless you already know how to make one). BTW: you can find more information on the web than what this book delivers. I am just glad that I borrowed it from the library, and did not buy it.

A marvellous little book which can be used as a manual and inspiring bed-time reading. Although some projects can be found on the web, the book version usually expands on these or is very different (and probably more permanent). The book's strength is that it has selected projects which are easy to replicate and which complement each other. Its weakness is that there isn't more of it.

As with other books I have read about telescope making, the writer chooses to focus on mirror

grinding principles and on his own projects. The lack of basic formulas to constructing telescopes is very disappointing. Nevertheless it is a very good book to read for those who already have the basic skills and are probably moving to their second or third project. So as I claim in the title... I believe this book is for "semi - amateur" telescope builders!

Unlike conventional ATM books, this one does not cover basic work. Either use available optics for the simple stuff, or you will have to make stuff for the more advanced projects. There are some excellent designs for DIY mounts and drives.

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