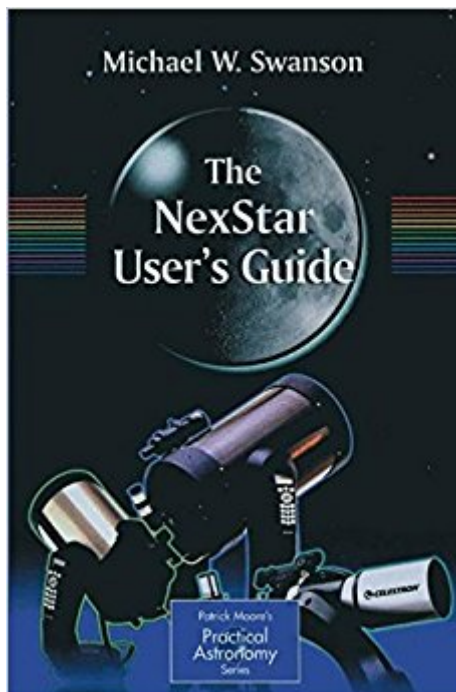


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# The NexStar User's Guide



## Synopsis

Michael Swanson's online discussions with literally thousands of NexStar owners made it clear that there was a desperate need for a book such as this – one that provides a complete, detailed guide to buying, using and maintaining NexStar telescopes. Although this book is highly comprehensive, it is suitable for beginners – there is a chapter on "Astronomy Basics" – and experts alike. Celestron's NexStar telescopes were introduced in 1999, beginning with their first computer controlled "go to" model, a 5-inch. More models appeared in quick succession, and Celestron's new range made it one of the two dominant manufacturers of affordable "go to" telescopes.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

SKY & TELESCOPE (DECEMBER 2004) "I knew all I needed to know about my scope, didn't I? | The NexStar User's Guide by Michael Swanson answers that question with a resounding No." | Swanson includes thorough, model-specific descriptions of all the telescope functions, care and maintenance, accessories, and numerous advanced topics. You'll find advice on how to fine-tune your alignment so that a new target will fall within the eyepiece's field of view every time you slew. I used to be pleased if that happened two or three times in a night. And are you tormented by backlash? Do you hit the hand paddle's arrow keys to nudge the aim and have to count to four before the scope actually moves? I was

vaguely aware that my 8-inch had backlash compensation settings, but I had never bothered trying to adjust them. And now? Oh, the joy of (almost) backlash-free observing! I was surprised by the difference these small improvements made in the pleasure of my observing experience. Besides owning two NexStars, Swanson's major credential for writing this book is his NexStar Resource Site ([www.nexstarsite.com](http://www.nexstarsite.com)), which is the precursor to the Guide. The author suggests, and I concur, that the book and the Web site be used in tandem. [The book's] true advantage comes from its friendly approach and sound advice based on the personal experiences of the author and other avid NexStar users."

Michael Swanson's day job is Technical Manager of Information Systems at the U.S. Navy hospital in Okinawa, Japan. His night jobs have included teaching computer science at the local community college and raising two sons. A chance association via an Internet discussion group led to an introduction to members of the management team at Celestron, providing a valuable technical resource that made this book possible.

This book is an extended manual for Nexstar celestron telescopes, It does not include my model that is a 6i but the information is useful. It has a lot of tips to buy, install, use and take care about the telescope. I recommended this book specially for the beginner

My original copy is 10 years old and well used. The digital copy should weather better. For me, this is must read stuff for Celestron NexStars. I started with the NexStar 8i and now have the 9.25" CPC. I knew nothing and no one. Star parties are great but essentially everyone tends to their own equipment and you must learn to do the same. Well intentioned "misinformation" will cost money, time and grief. For me, telescopes, equipment and associated toys are expensive. This book helped me master my equipment and greatly complimented the manufacturer's manual. It is still my main reference bible and really, not a bad read. Also, there is a web site which updates this material and I recommend both for the starter.

This is a real review, I paid full price for this item even if you're not a complete noob to astronomy, this book is absolutely fantastic. Lots of very useful information, hints, and lots of information you would not know unless you have many years of experience working with Nexstar equipment. I would absolutely recommend this book to anyone before spending any money on a telescope or accessories, it'll save you a lot of money by keeping you from buying stuff you don't really need

Greetings, Very well written, but like everything that is computer operated by software or firmware, its guide books quickly become out dated. I just purchased a Celestron 6" refractor with an Advance VX GOTO mount. Save for a few tips and some operational myths dispelled, I was always reading about someone else's instrument. The Nexstar resource pages the author still operates online is perhaps more relevant and up-to-date. I'd pass on the book though unless you have purchased a used GOTO from 2000 - 2005.

Great guide to NexStar products.

If you have a Celestron Nexstar series scope then this book is one of the best buys you can get yourself. Besides that, it's a nice little refresher on the generals of astronomy and ways to make the hobby more rewarding and enjoyable for yourself and others. It was better than I expected and at the time I bought it I had two Nexstars that I was toying around with, and this book helped me make the best use of both of them! Also a nice little Celestron history lesson!

For someone that is just getting started, this is an excellent run down on just about everything. It may be a little dated now but I have a 'new to me' older SCT and this has everything I was looking for, along with great references to a wealth of up to date on line info.

I have learned numerous tips and tricks that have helped me to further my enjoyment of my new Go-To telescope. It seems the more I read, the more I learn that was not included in the original telescope manual.

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