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Turn Left At Orion: Hundreds Of Night Sky Objects To See In A Home Telescope - And How To Find Them



Synopsis

With over 100,000 copies sold since first publication, this is one of the most popular astronomy books of all time. It is a unique guidebook to the night sky, providing all the information you need to observe a whole host of celestial objects. With a new spiral binding, this edition is even easier to use outdoors at the telescope and is the ideal beginner's book. Keeping its distinct one-object-per-spread format, this edition is also designed for Dobsonian telescopes, as well as for smaller reflectors and refractors, and covers Southern hemisphere objects in more detail. Large-format eyepiece views, positioned side-by-side, show objects exactly as they are seen through a telescope, and with improved directions, updated tables of astronomical information and an expanded night-by-night Moon section, it has never been easier to explore the night sky on your own. Many additional resources are available on the accompanying website, www.cambridge.org/turnleft.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This is quite possibly the most inviting guidebook ever written to help people with binoculars and small telescopes find, view, understand, and, most of all, enjoy everything in the night sky from the Moon and planets to distant star clusters, nebulae, and galaxies. And if you think it's only for beginners, think again--every telescope owner should have a copy." Dennis di Cicco, Senior Editor, *Sky & Telescope* "Turn Left at Orion is an essential guide for both beginners and more experienced amateur astronomers who will find much inside to reinvigorate their passion for the stars. The

diagrams are simple, clear and functional, and the text eloquently captures the excitement of observing. Stargazing has never been made so easy and if you buy just one book on observational astronomy, make sure it's this one." Keith Cooper, Editor, *Astronomy Now*"Since it first appeared in 1989, *Turn Left at Orion* has been an indispensable guidebook for the amateur astronomer possessing nothing more than a small backyard telescope. In this Fourth Edition, Guy Consolmagno and Dan Davis have revised, updated, and expanded its scope. This is not only an essential handbook for the novice, it's a useful reference for the seasoned backyard astronomer. Simply put, whatever your level of experience, you must have this book!" Glenn Chaple, Contributing Editor, *Astronomy*

Written for beginners, this superb book is a complete guide to the night sky. Now covering Southern hemisphere objects and Dobsonian telescopes in detail, it has never been easier for stargazers of all ages and backgrounds to find celestial objects for themselves.

I've been looking at the stars for over 30 years and have a shelf full of books that I use to help people learn the night sky. Other than R.A. Rey's "The Stars" this is the one book I tell people is a MUST OWN. I give talks on how to buy a telescope at the local library and at outreach events and tell people that after the fee for joining the local Astronomy club, this book should be the first thing they buy. When people first get a telescope they quickly realize how big the sky is, and how hard it is to find things to look at other than the moon and the naked-eye visible planets. The new scope then sits and collects hats and jackets until eventually ending up on Craigslist or at a yard sale. Please, don't do that. Get this book with a good pair of binoculars and/or your first telescope, learn the sky and find some neat objects that most people will only see via the internet.

If you are even contemplating the hobby, buy this book. Spiral binding gives huge, easy-to-reference diagrams and descriptions for those who have never looked down a scope. I own a dobsonian 8" and can confirm the sketches as dead-on for what you can expect to see. Painfully easy to use. I like the addition of southern objects, as I plan to eventually vacation in S.A. with the telescope. There isn't a book out there that can approach this in its step-by-step starhopping instructions.

If you're looking for a book that will let you figure out what to focus your scope on, you can't go wrong with this book. In fact, I wish I'd purchased it first when I was looking for books on astronomy.

The book is organized by seasons, so you can turn to the winter season, for example, and get information on what might be the best sights to search for in the heavens. The authors show what you will really see through your telescope, instead of those beautiful Hubble-like pictures which you won't see unless you have a very large telescope, and there are in-depth descriptions on how to locate the objects and what you can expect to see. They even go through what you might see with simple tools like binoculars and if you'll only see the object under truly dark skies or if it's bright enough to see under moderately light-polluted skies. This book now goes with me whenever I take my telescope out--in fact it is part of my "kit" that includes my observation log and drawing book. I honestly can't imagine going out without it anymore. When I plan an evening's list of targets to observe, this is the first book I drag out and read through. I frankly think it is indispensable, particularly for a beginning astronomer like me..

This is a fabulous beginner's astronomical observing book, a must have--IN PRINT. In the Kindle version--even read on my high-resolution iPad--the tables at the end are unreadably small and fuzzy. The body of the text is fine as are the sky images and diagrams. So if you limit yourself to those, perhaps supplemented by some material found at the book's website, you will be satisfied with the experience. And of course the information in the tables is available from a wide variety of other print and web resources. If the tables could be properly formatted to display correctly on Kindle devices, I would upgrade my review to SIX STARS!

So I just got my new 4th edition of Turn Left at Orion. I have to start out by saying that about two months ago I ordered this book, but after receiving it I found it to be the 3rd edition and already out of date. I spoke with CS and they had no problem sending me a free return label and full refund so I could purchase the new version. Way to go !! I am rather new to astronomy and I first purchased this book due to all the great recommendations on and other sites, but when I received it (the 3rd version), I really wasn't too thrilled with it overall - I guess I was expecting great photos and really detailed instructions on how to find objects in the sky - still it seemed a pretty good book so I ordered the new version. WOW! What an improvement. Immediately I could see all the great changes and the detailed instructions for finding objects just as I had hoped. The feel of the book seems a little cheap at first, but considering the cost at around \$20, I think the authors did this purposefully so that we could get the best info possible at a great price. I have a 10" Dobsonian telescope and was thrilled that they give illustrations on how you might see objects with both Dob's and scopes with star diagonals at both high and low powers. After the basic intro, you jump

immediately into detailed maps of the Moon which every beginner should start out with. Next is the namesake of Orion and all the exciting finds there. The chapters are then broken down by season and what you might expect to see. Super great planning for beginners or advanced sky-watchers. Although you won't find any glossy colored photos, you would never see those views through a home telescope anyway so the illustrations are a much better way of presenting what you will actually see. The only reason I gave 4 stars out of 5 is because the pages seem like they might wear out after a lot of use or might be effected by dew in moist climates - only time will tell. Overall I highly recommend this book for every backyard astronomer. Customer Service gets 5 stars!

Started to get this book many times over the years. Just never did. Sorry I didn't and glad I waited. REALLY like this new addition !! It reminds me of some of the old astronomy series that I used to have from Edmond scientific. Very user friendly and wonderful to use. I'm in my 70's and been doing this for a lot of years. This book works for me now and it would have been great w a y back many years ago. I think it will do for you too! Don't put it off like I did. Get it now. You'll be glad you did.

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