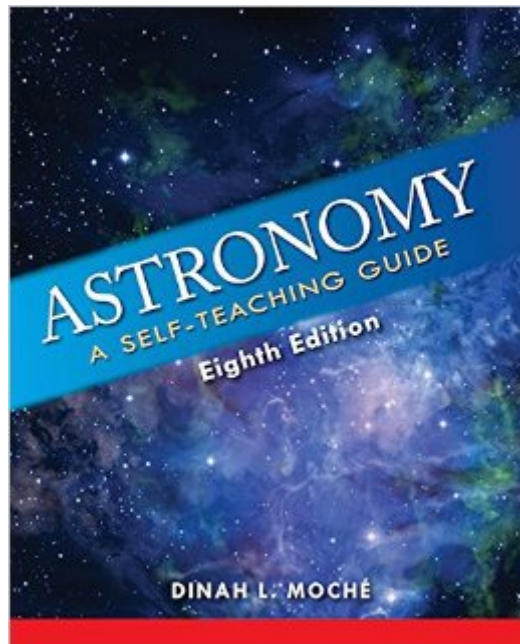


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Astronomy: A Self-Teaching Guide, Eighth Edition (Wiley Self Teaching Guides)



Synopsis

For a generation, *Astronomy: A Self-Teaching Guide* has introduced hundreds of thousands of readers worldwide to the night sky. Now this classic beginner's guide has been completely revised to bring it up to date with the latest discoveries. Updated with the latest, most accurate information, new online resources, and more than 100 new graphics and photos, this Eighth Edition features:

- Website addresses throughout for the best color images and astronomy resources online
- Technical ideas made simple without mathematics
- A beautiful updated full-color, glossy insert with spectacular images
- An interactive format with learning goals, reviews, self-tests, and answers for fast learning

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (93 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I am a college professor and have used earlier editions of this book as a required text and also as a recommended text for an introductory astronomy course. I like this book because it has the information that is needed and is not overloaded with extraneous information or pictures. It gets to the point. Many other popular textbooks have way too much information to be covered in a semester course, and it costs the students well over a hundred dollars to get the book. These texts have fancy color pages that aren't really all that necessary, in my opinion, and long explanations that are too much for an introductory course for non-science majors. Moche's book is different. It has what you need but doesn't go overboard. But does it have enough? Colleagues of mine have tried to point out topics that are missing from the book. I look them up, and sure enough, those

topics are there! The book treats a large number of topics in a concise way. As a result, the information is accessible, and the book is quite affordable for the student. If a student or a professor wishes to go more in depth on a particular topic, that's what class time is for, or sources such as current articles from astronomy magazines. While I have mostly used this book in an academic setting, I would also recommend this book to someone wanting to learn astronomy on his or her own. The format is helpful for self-learning. This latest edition will not disappoint you. There are many updates, such as the numbers of moons of the planets. Plus, there is a color insert, which adds some color without adding to the book's price. What a great way to celebrate the International Year of Astronomy 2009! Clear skies....

I'm a mother who doesn't know much about astronomy but now I've found a resource to use when my kids ask me questions about the stars and planets. This is an easy-to-read guide for parents who are not experts.

This book provides an excellent introduction to astronomy. It is up to date with excellent photographs and clear explanations. I would highly recommend this book to students in astronomy classes as well as people who wish to learn about astronomy as a hobby.

This is the nicest, most thoughtfully presented intro to astronomy I have ever come across. Every aspect of this gem is outstanding. Great diagrams, clearly presented concepts, well paced....dirt cheap. It is organized just like a self paced course, with frequent quizzes and end of chapter tests. If you want to start off in astronomy with one excellent book, this would be the one. I just wish I had discovered it years ago. I'm using the 5th edition. I would presume subsequent editions to be at least as good.

A very good book for little more than a beginner. Would have been nice to have colored pictures, but then the cost would have been higher. However, the diagrams and black and white photos were good enough to relate to the information. The book met the requirements for the purpose of what it was meant for. I would rate it as a 4 1/2.

Even with the high level of material in this book, as a high school student, I was fully able to understand everything! The information is excellent and is extremely easy to use. There is no better astronomy self teaching guide than Dr. Moche's. Her simplicity in the complex concepts is

brilliant.Thanks for a great guide!-Lucy Schwartz

This book is formatted as a schoolbook, with each topic followed by a series of questions [with answers].It is deceptively simple, but appears to be a thorough and meaningful summary of information about the Universe and our solar system in it. There is an orientation toward encouraging the reader to get more involved in understanding and learning about our planet and how it fits in the cosmos.Numerous illustrations and pictures are helpful in demonstrating the author's points.For me, this was a real pleasure to read.

When I read the reviews about this book I assumed it was a fairly simple self teaching guide, however it is far from that.I am familiar with astronomy so the book was not for me, it was more for my wife. When I received and reviewed the book, it was not as simple as I had hoped. Not that my wife is a simple minded person either, but the book is based on someone who should have prior knowledge of astronomy rather than a beginner.I would not recommend this book as a self teaching guide, in fact I would not recommend this book at all. Save your money or buy Night Watch which is an EXCELLENT beginners book to astronomy.

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