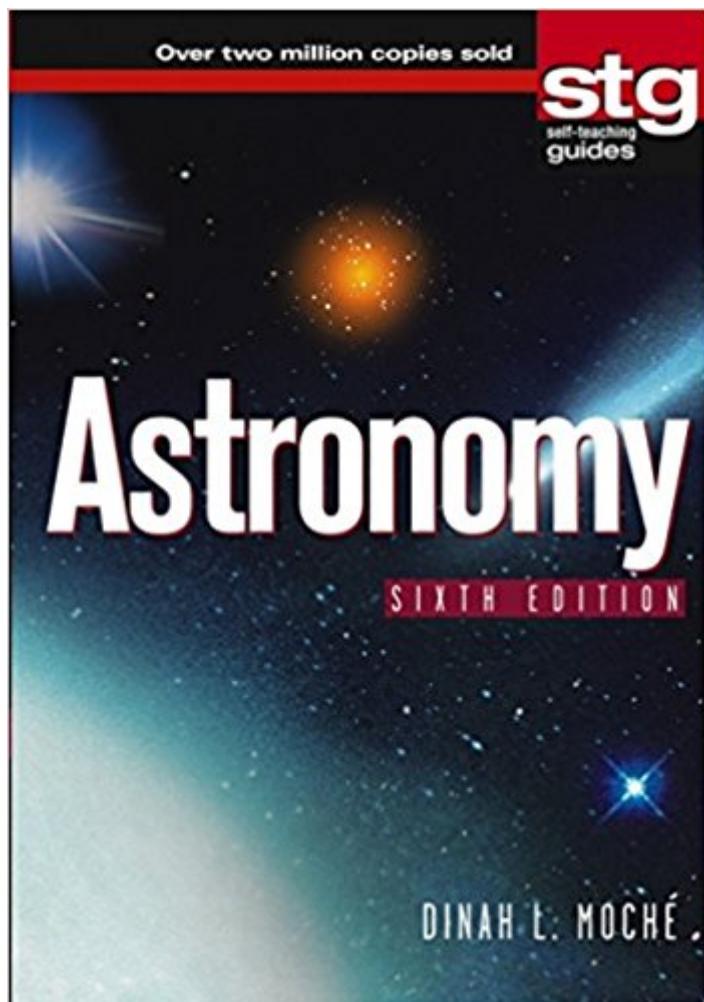


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# Astronomy: A Self-Teaching Guide, Sixth Edition



## **Synopsis**

"A lively, up-to-date account of the basic principles of astronomy and exciting current field of research."-Science Digest For a quarter of a century, *Astronomy: A Self-Teaching Guide* has been making students and amateur stargazers alike feel at home among the stars. From stars, planets and galaxies, to black holes, the Big Bang and life in space, this title has been making it easy for beginners to quickly grasp the basic concepts of astronomy for over 25 years. Updated with the latest discoveries in astronomy and astrophysics, this newest edition of Dinah MochÃfÂ©'s classic guide now includes many Web site addresses for spectacular images and news. And like all previous editions, it is packed with valuable tables, charts, star and moon maps and features simple activities that reinforce readers' grasp of basic concepts at their own pace, as well as objectives, reviews, and self-tests to monitor their progress. Dinah L. MochÃfÂ©, PhD (Rye, NY), is an award-winning author, educator, and lecturer. Her books have sold over nine million copies in seven languages.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"A lively, up-to-date account of the basic principles of astronomy and exciting current field of research."

Explore the fascinating night sky with this acclaimed astronomy self-teaching guide From stars,

planets, and galaxies to black holes, the Big Bang, and life in space, this new edition of *Astronomy* brings the wonders of the cosmos to life. Offering a unique, successful self-teaching format, this practical, user-friendly guide makes it easy for you to quickly grasp the basic principles of astronomy and build gradually on what you have learned. Updated with the latest discoveries and graphics, this new guide by award-winning author Dinah MochÃfÃ© features: Frontier twenty-first-century research into black holes, active galaxies, and quasars New Web site addresses throughout for the best astronomy online Removable Star and Moon maps for fun stargazing A review of the latest ground and space telescopes Up-to-date star, constellation, and astronomical data Objectives, reviews, and self-tests to monitor your progress This complete, new edition is all any student or amateur stargazer needs to understand and appreciate the wonders of the universe. You can use the book alone or with a conventional textbook, Internet-based or distance-learning course, computer software, telescope manual, or as a handy reference. Praise for previous editions of *Astronomy* "One of the best ways by which one can be introduced to the wonders of astronomy." "The Strolling Astronomer" "Excellent . . . provides stimulating reading and actively involves the reader in astronomy." "The Reflector

I'm an armchair astronomer. While I save up to buy that telescope, I read books like this, attend star parties (dark sky gatherings where amateur astronomers let wannabes like me peek through their scopes) and daydream about the day when my future telescope sees first light. This is a great book for people like me. It's the equivalent of a very thorough undergraduate "Introduction to Astronomy" class. The author makes good use of illustrations throughout the book to explain difficult concepts like stellar spectra, distances to astronomical objects, and how astronomers determine the temperature, mass, and composition of stars. New discoveries are being made every day in astronomy, and of course it's impossible for a book to be as current as today's newspaper. Readers of this book will want to update themselves on certain topics, such as extrasolar planets, human spaceflight, SETI, the explosion of CCD photography in amateur astronomy, among others. A list of resources to do just that is provided in the back of the book. I highly recommend this book for anyone who wants to be entertained and enlightened at the same time. If you're like me, preparing to morph from armchair to amateur status, this book provides an excellent foundation.

I am not as interested in becoming an astronomer as I am learning about stars and planets and what they mean and are intended for by creator God. This book took me from knowing nothing more than the Big and Little Dippers to understanding a lot about our universe and the Cosmos! You can

skip over some of the high math and still learn a lot. It is a great book with lots of photos to explain what they are teaching. Would recommend it to ALL!

Obviously there are no people who are completely clueless about astronomy since we all were taught as children (at least I was) about the planets in our solar system and about other galaxies. Beyond that most people would not know much about astronomy; which is where this nice little book comes in handy. It has enough information on astronomy subjects without mathematics and without being textbook-like. I think the value of this book is the combination of illustrations and text that stimulate an interest to explore the topics (in another, more extensive book) if this is so desired. And if not, then it is still a good overview of astronomy. Good book for the price!

My son is a selftaught Astronomy enthusiast, and was eager to learn the hard facts about the heavens, but was not able to assist to a course or class due to lack of free time, so he bought this book and found what he was looking for: a organized, step by step, interesting and enjoyable way of understanding our universe.

Good book fun read

This book offers a stimulating introduction to astronomy for beginners. The sixth edition is updated with latest research into black holes, active galaxies and quasars, searches for life in space, origin and structure of our universe. I particularly like the many photos and diagrams included in the book for illustration and that each chapter is organized into small sections for easy learning.

This book is nicely laid-out. When you're finished with it, you will know your astronomy. It reads smoothly and is easy to carry around -- being a paperback. I recommend it.

This allows the reader to know a bit more about Astronomy by having questions after each chapter, which is nice.

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