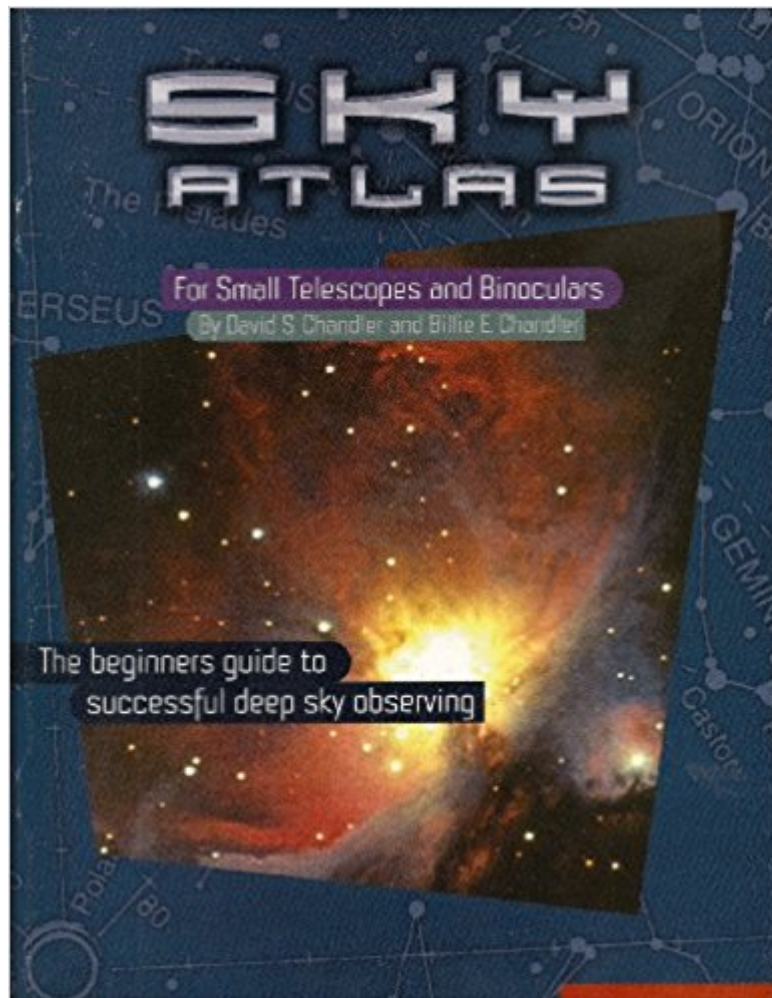




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Sky Atlas For Small Telescopes And Binoculars



Synopsis

This is the Atlas for sky observing beginners. As one reviewer put it, "It is kind of like the user manual that didn't come with your telescope." The constellations are drawn simply to make them easy to locate, and all the objects in the atlas are within reach of binoculars or a small (60 mm or less) telescopes. This selection of easy to find objects insures success for the beginner. Many beginners do not know which objects are within reach of their equipment and end up frustrated and unsuccessful. This atlas describes fascinating objects and tells which are viewable with binoculars, a small telescope, or even with the unaided eye. Objects are described in detail on one page and shown in a chart view on the opposing page for quick reference.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"In clear prose, the Chandlers offer a vast array of knowledge from their own experience. ... A distinguished excursion." --The Book Reader, Fall 1996

David Chandler has taught astronomy, physics, and mathematics at the high school and college levels since the early 1970's. He has a BS in Physics from Harvey Mudd College, an MA in Education from Claremont Graduate School, and an MS in Mathematics from California Polytechnic University. He has published a number of charts and books designed to help beginners become successful in observational astronomy. Billie Chandler became interested in astronomy when her children were given a telescope by a relative. She subscribed to astronomy periodicals, took an astronomy course at a local college, and started looking into what could be seen with amateur-sized

equipment. About the time of Halley's Comet (1985-86) she bought a 10" Dobsonian telescope and started observing regularly, first with the Idyll Gazers in Idyllwild CA, then with the Pomona Valley Amateur Astronomers. She is one of the first women in the United States to earn the Herschel award from the Astronomical League. She has sketched hundreds of astronomical objects at the eyepiece. Most of the descriptions in Sky Atlas for Small Telescopes and Binoculars are based on her observing notes. She currently operates David Chandler Company, which publishes astronomy software, and astronomy-related charts and literature.

Most observing guides just tell you where to find certain objects such as Messier and NGC objects, double stars, etc. Most of them by experienced observers using high end Televues or Asto-Physics or Takahashi 'scopes under ink-dark skies. Way too many objects are just not realistic for most of us. Sure, they're where the book tells you they are but you have to just take their word for it. The virtue of this little book is that it focuses exclusively on what ordinary observers with ordinary telescopes or binoculars observing in ordinary settings under ordinary skies can actually SEE with their modest instruments under a less-than-actually-dark dome. In other words, real world observing targets for real world people. You could actually concoct a fairly extensive observing program based on this book alone. I like it, and have found it a most useful celestial trail guide. The only negative, and it's strictly a tertiary one, is that it's only 17 pages, hence a bit pricey in terms of cost-per-page. Hence, a 1-star deduction. But, so what? It does the job, and does it well.

Divides up the sky into north circumpolar, south circumpolar, and six swatches, the same as Norton's, which I favor as an occasional binocular observer, since it is so easy to find the map you need. (Compare 80 maps in Sinnott's Pocket Sky Atlas.) Maps are on the right page with a selection of concise data and descriptions for deep-sky objects facing on the left page. (The maps are half the size of Norton's two-pagers, therefore.) By itself, I doubt the brief introductory material supplies enough background for a beginner. However, I would highly recommend this light weight little book to a beginner with binoculars or a small telescope as a companion to something like Richard Berry's "Discover the Stars." Berry is the best thing I know of in print to recommend to someone who wants to learn the sky, but his maps are optimized for naked eye observing under good (but not necessarily outstanding) conditions. Chandler's atlas has fainter stars you will need to assist in "hopping" your way to a deep sky object.

Really no need to echo what other reviewer's said. It's short & sweet !!! Very easy to read &

understand. Me Likey !!!!

Very small number of pages. This atlas protects beginners from flood of too much information.

This is a clear book and a fine guide to night sky. It has suitable deep sky objects for small telescopes and binoculars. At left pages you can read in a table the objects for each constellation, and at the right ones a map with them. A great companion for stargazing and a must-have book.

Great little book. It's very sparse, so it's really for the astronomer who has figured out her or his telescope, and is now ready to start bagging objects and figuring out more of the night sky. Perfect for astronomy parties or just filling out your Messier object list while using your scope in the back yard.

Well done A useful guide to the sky.

I understand there is an app for the iPhone where you can point it up to the heavens and it will take a picture and identify all the constellations. That is more my speed. This is encyclopedic and very technical. Appeals to the engineers out there, not just garden variety stargazers like myself.

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