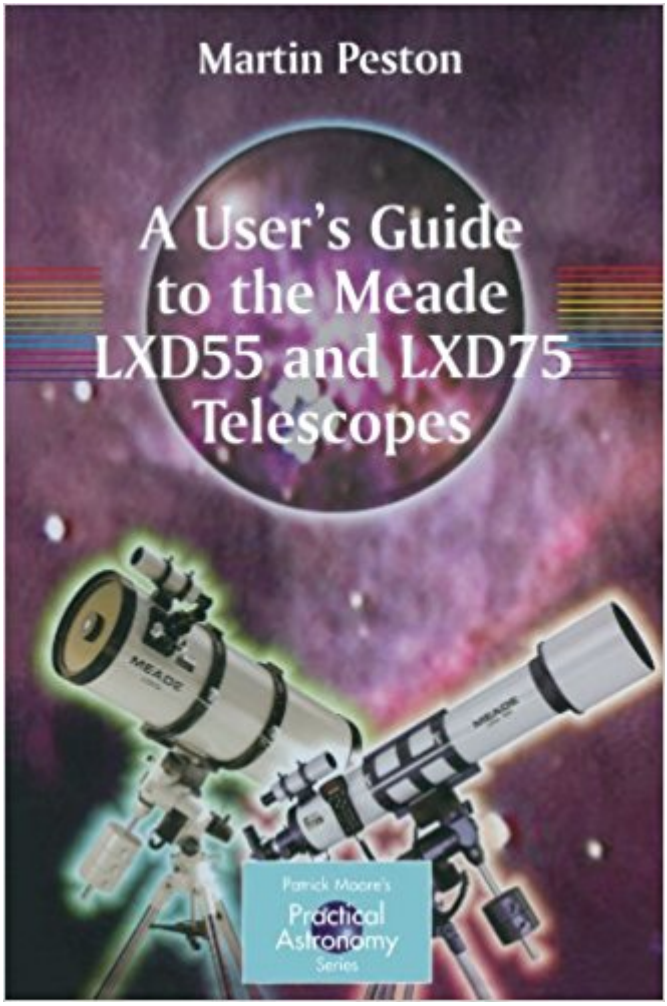
A User's Guide To The Meade LXD55 And LXD75 Telescopes (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series)



Synopsis

This book offers a comprehensive introductory guide to "choosing and using" a series LXD55 or LXD75 computer-controlled ("goto") telescope, containing a wealth of useful information for both beginners and more advanced practical amateur astronomers. The manufacturerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s manuals are not nearly detailed enough to be of real help to beginners. No other book offers advanced techniques for more experienced LXD series users.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Good news for all those who have found their Meade telescope just a tiny bit unfriendly. Tame the beast with this excellent book by our friend Martin Peston." (Brian May, banguniverse.com) "Many readers of my book Using the Meade ETX have told me that they keep the book handy when using their ETX telescope. I suspect that many LXD telescope users will keep A User’s Guide to the Meade LXD55 and LXD75 Telescopes on hand as well. While no book will cover every topic or detail that the author wants to or should include, this book, in its 250 pages, has many techniques and tips that any level of LXD user will find valuable. I can heartily recommend this book to all LXD telescope users." (Mike Weasner, author of Using the Meade ETX, weasner.com)

This is a fully comprehensive guide to "choosing and using" the LXD55 / 75 computer-controlled Ã¢â ¬â œ "go to" Ã¢â ¬â œ series of telescopes. It is intended both for beginners and more

advanced practical amateur astronomers. The LXD series of telescopes is unusual in having German Equatorial Mounts Ã¢â ¬â œ GEMs Ã¢â ¬â œ rather than the more common altazimuth design. Although setting up a GEM with a go-to system is more involved than setting up the equivalent altazimuth mount, there are many advantages in the system, including zero field rotation. A UserÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Guide to the Meade LXD55 and LXD75 Telescopes contains a wealth of information on setting up, using and maintaining the telescope, along with lots of hints, tips, and tricks for getting the very best out of it. Coverage in advanced techniques for experienced astronomers and LXD users include imaging, interfacing with a PC or laptop, using available accessories, and troubleshooting.

I really enjoyed this book. I don't own an LXD75 but I did pick up a polar finder scope from one and was curious about how it worked. The telescope manual I downloaded from Meade was no help at all. This book goes into the polar-alignment process in great detail and answers a lot of questions I had. I don't have a German Equatorial Mount scope (GEM), but I believe most of this would apply to any brand GEM. I thought maybe a GEM would the next step up for me, but after reading all that goes into setting it up I'm not so sure.A second major theme of the book is a detailed explanation of using the Autostar #497 hand controller. Meade's manual on this product is pretty minimal, so this is very welcome. He also discusses connecting it to a laptop, but I was a little disappointed here. That section is very brief.There are also some general guidelines for various astrophotography techniques (CCD, webcam, etc.) that seem pretty current and that I found useful.Every chapter contains web references and book recommendations, plus there are appendices with more details. These appendices include lists of the some of the stars and other objects in the Autostar handset, information you can only get by scrolling through the handset display otherwise.

The book has much more information than the directions that come with these mounts, and is a must have, BUT! If it ever gets up dated for a new edition, it should also include information on tuning up the mount, and using the software with Meade's cameras, including adding a camera as an auto guider. I would buy that new edition if it ever comes out. Anyways, if you have an LXD mount get this book. It will make using the hand controller much easier, and give you many tips that the directions left out. If the LXD mounts came with directions like in this book, they may end up with a much larger share of the market. If this is your first GEM you NEED this book. Heck you need this book if this is your mount period.

The User’s Guide to the Meade LXD55 and LXD75 has really put me above and beyond the scope of knowledge required to use my LXD55 telescope.This reference book offers insight from experienced LXD55/75 owners that have encountered virtually every problem that any telescope owner has run into. It has helped me with Autostar problems, encoder problems and alignment issues. Though I have read the entire book, it will definitely serve as a reference when I encounter future problems with my LXD55.Point being, if you own a LXD55/75 Meade telescope, you better BUY THIS BOOK!You will not regret it.

This book is so atrociously written that I would give it negative stars if that were possible. Absolutely brimming with grammatical, spelling, punctuation & factual errors. I’ve seen (& required) better writing from my grandchildren. Obviously rushed headlong from rough draft to the printing press, this book violates every literary standard. Time & again I found myself reading the same sentence multiple times wondering, "Just what the hell is he trying to say here". As far as content is concerned, there are whole chapters devoted to things other than the use of the LXD55/75. A chapter on basic astronomy. If I wanted to learn astronomy, I would have bought an astronomy book. Another chapter on how to choose a telescope. Hello?!?! I’m pretty sure I already have a telescope. It’s an LXD75. I was hoping THIS book might help me get some use from it. Another chapter on Autostar. Why? Easily 1/3 of this book is useless filler. I can only surmise the purpose of this "content" is to make it a little thicker. Unfortunately, as previously mentioned, the remainder is so poorly written that if there is anything in there worth knowing I am unable to decipher it. I would not have believed anyone could write worse than the authors of the Meade manuals. I was wrong. Martin Preston should be required to complete elementary school before ever being allowed to put pencil to paper again. And if this is indicative of the quality I can expect from Patrick Moore, this will be the only book in his series that I purchase. I will only keep this book as it may serve to demonstrate a good example of how NOT to write. Save your money. As a means of learning anything about an LXD55/75, this book is worthless. You’ll have better luck at the LXD75 group on Yahoo.Yeah, I said that.Ed JohnsonJoplin, Mo.

Came wrapped in shrink wrap, good for anyone who has this mount or scope.

This book is very well written & done obviously by someone who has actually used the equipment. I’ve had this mount for quite some time & the book still provided information that I didn’t know & certainly was not in the product manual. Whether your just starting out with this mount or you have

had one for a while I highly recommend this book. Entertaining as well as informative!

This has a lot of info on the LXD scope. I found a lot of help in the book, some on setting up the scope and some on using it.

covers details

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