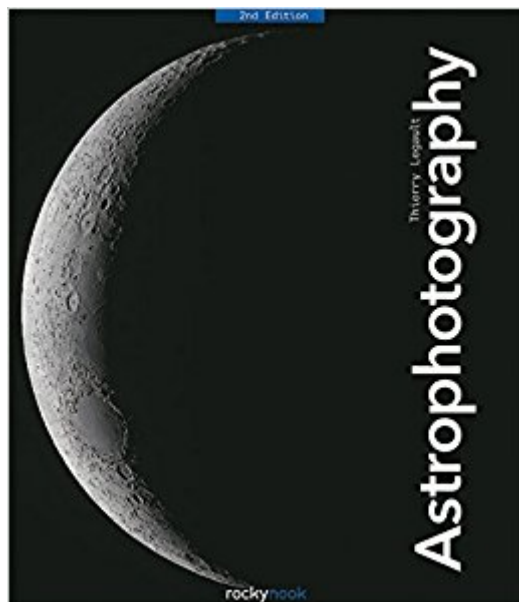


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# Astrophotography



## Synopsis

Today's photographic equipment allows amateurs to take pictures of the stars that far surpass images taken just a few decades ago by even the largest observatories-and this book will teach you how. Author and world-renowned astrophotographer Thierry Legault teaches the art and techniques of astrophotography: from simple camera-on-tripod night-scene imaging of constellations, star trails, eclipses, artificial satellites, and polar auroras to more intensive astrophotography using specialized equipment for lunar, planetary, solar, and deep-sky imaging. Legault shares advice on equipment and guides you through techniques to capture and process your images to achieve spectacular results. Astrophotography provides the most thorough treatment of the topic available. This large-format, richly illustrated book is intended for all sky enthusiasts-newcomers and veterans alike. Learn how to:

- Select the most useful equipment: cameras, adapters, filters, focal reducers/extenders, field correctors, and guide telescopes
- Set up your camera (digital, video, or CCD) and your lens or telescope for optimal results
- Plan your observing sessions
- Mount the camera on your telescope and focus it for razor-sharp images
- Polar-align your equatorial mount and improve tracking for pin-point star images
- Make celestial time-lapse videos
- Calculate the shooting parameters: focal length and ratio, field of view, exposure time, etc.
- Combine multiples exposures to reveal faint galaxies, nebulae details, elusive planetary structures, and tiny lunar craters
- Adjust contrast, brightness, light curves, and colors
- Postprocess your images to fix defects such as vignetting, dust shadows, hot pixels, uneven background, and noise
- Identify problems with your images and improve your results

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Thierry Legault is a world-renowned astrophotographer. In 1999, Legault received the prestigious Marius Jacquemetton prize from the Societe Astronomique de France for his astronomical photographs. He is so highly regarded in this industry that the International Astronomical Union officially bestowed the name Legault on asteroid #19458. Legault co-authored the book *New Atlas of the Moon* (Firefly, 2006) and has written numerous articles about astrophotography for French and American magazines. He regularly presents courses and gives astrophotography lectures in Europe, America, and Asia. Legault's images, most notably those of the International Space Station, have been published and broadcast worldwide (including NASA publications, *Nature*, *Scientific American*, *The Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Popular Science*, *Aviation Week*, *Discovery Channel*, *BBC*, *CNN*, *ABC*, *CBS*, *Fox*, *CBC*, and *MSNBC*). Thierry earns his living as an engineer and is currently living in the suburbs of Paris, France. For more information see [www.astrophoto.fr](http://www.astrophoto.fr).

Masterful book, from one of astrophotography's masters. Let's be honest - the man is a legend in the field of high-resolution astrophotography of transient phenomena. But he knows so much more than just that narrow field. And he expresses it all so well and so clearly in a language which isn't even his native one! Every time I meet or listen to Thierry, he just blows me away. This book contains so much of his knowledge and distilled experience, it would be of value at any price. My personal expertise is in planetary photography - that is not a strength of this book. But I bought it for all the OTHER areas where I am not strong. Eliminate your weaknesses, just like in any sport, hobby or competitive industry. And this book helps you do just that. It's both a readable book, cover-to-cover, and a reference book, where you refer back to specific chapters from time to time as you hone your skills. And it has a prominent place in the pile of books on my nightstand!

I recently purchased a telescope and was interested in Astrophotography. I am still reading this book but found great information in what I have read so far. I have not had much of a chance to put some of the information to use as it has been very cloudy in my area for several weeks. I would recommend this book to someone that has some experience with the night sky and whatever device you may use to view/photograph the sky.

A book with real, detailed, and to the point information. Very well written even though it is a

translation. Don't forget to read the appendices: one changed a major purchase I was about to make.

Buy this book.

This book showed all aspects of astrophotography, from camera and tripod to tracked deep sky imaging. Really insightful details with experience troubleshooting tips. I will refer back to this book often

A very complete reference on the subject. He explains the critical details and procedures to get the most out of your scope and camera. I find that I go to it often to refine my imaging techniques and practices. Superb work!

A great read. Tons of information. Photographers and those interested in how photographs are taken will find this book a nice addition to their library.

Many good information. But formulas is very hard to explain. Maybe, some things must be easier. But is still very useable book!

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