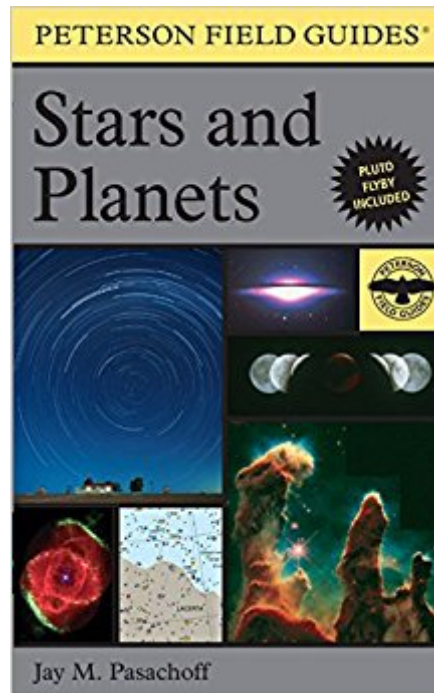




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# A Peterson Field Guide To Stars And Planets (Peterson Field Guides)



## Synopsis

The fourth edition of this best-selling field guide was revised and updated to include the latest information. As of the 14th printing (June 2016; the cover medallion says "Pluto Flyby Included"), all the time-sensitive material is valid through 2020: solar eclipses, phases of the moon, positions of the planets, and more. Twenty-four Monthly Sky Maps, revised and in color, show exactly what youâ™ll see when facing north or south in the night sky. Fifty-two Atlas Charts, also revised and in color, cover the entire sky, including close-ups of areas of special interest such as the Pleiades and the Orion Nebula. Two dozen pages cover the August 21, 2017, total solar eclipse whose path crosses the continental United States, how and where to view it, and other aspects of current and future solar eclipses.

## Book Information

Series: Peterson Field Guides

Paperback: 592 pages

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; 4th, Updated edition (November 23, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395934311

ISBN-13: 978-0395934319

Product Dimensions: 4.5 x 1.2 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 57 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #70,482 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Star-Gazing #98 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Astronomy & Astrophysics #194 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Astronomy

## Customer Reviews

"Brimming with dazzling celestial photographs and timely astronomical information, the newly revised Peterson Field Guide to the Stars and Planets is a must-have resource for any amateur stargazer." Country Living Gardener"An excellent introduction to astronomy for beginners and a field guide for experts." St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Jay M. Pasachoff is the Field Memorial Professor of Astronomy and the Chair of the Astronomy Department at Williams College. He is the author of the Peterson Field Guide to Stars and Planets,

as well as numerous textbooks and trade books on astronomy, weather, and more. Roger Tory Peterson, one of the world's greatest naturalists, received every major award for ornithology, natural science, and conservation as well as numerous honorary degrees, medals, and citations, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Peterson Identification System has been called the greatest invention since binoculars. These editions include updated material by Michael O'Brien, Paul Lehman, Bill Thompson III, Michael DiGiorgio, Larry Rosche, and Jeffrey A. Gordon.

I saw this at a friend of mine's, and instantly knew it was superior to my Cambridge Guide to the Stars and Planets that I've long relied on. Although I own the SkyAtlas 2000 star charts, and am a professional astronomer, these handy reference guides are GREAT for quick look ups, reference info, learning what constellation a given deep sky object is in, etc. I like this one over the Cambridge as the sky atlas' are far more detailed. If you don't have your star charts handy, this is perfect for getting you "in the neighborhood" of an object you're looking for. Depending upon the field of view with which you're viewing, you should land right on it, or just need to move your scope no more than 1 degree in any direction in order to find it. I'm really impressed with this book, and can't believe its only \$12 ish.

Information is well presented and available. In this small form factor, I don't anticipate the book lasting long. If they'd split it into two books, a northern and southern hemisphere, it would be thinner and easier to hold... It's just too thick to last.

If I had to choose a small number of books to take with me into exile on some deserted island somewhere, this would definitely be one of them (and offhand I'm not sure I can name any others). An entire astronomy library packed into a single portable field guide, Jay Pasachoff's entry in the Peterson Field Guide series is a delightful introduction to, and reference for, the universe revealed in the night sky. If you have any interest in astronomy at all, you can always find something in here to look at or just to sit and ponder about. Besides the obvious things like monthly star charts for both northern and southern hemispheres, the book contains a complete 52 chart atlas of the sky put together by Wil Tirion with notes on objects in each chart, clever finder charts and tables for the planets for a ten year period, history and lore of the naming of the constellations, many, many photographs of astronomical objects taken by Hubble and other telescopes, an atlas of the moon, and many enlightening charts and tables of things like details of the brightest/nearest stars, the planets and their moons, and so on. There's a section on each of the planets, and of course lots of

coverage of the sun and eclipses of the sun and moon. It always surprises me that this book doesn't seem to get as much respect in astronomical circles as I think it deserves. While you can certainly fill a library with astronomical books and atlases that are better than this field guide in any one area, you will not do better than this book in stuffing all of that information together in one "to go" package. An excellent gift for a child starting to get interested in science and the world at large. I could go on, but you should just buy the book and see for yourself :-)

As a beginner, just getting started in learning the night sky, and wanting to observe with binoculars and maybe a small telescope, I have found this to be an awesome resource. I have a couple older editions of this time tested tome and am happy to have the most updated version.

A must-have if you're at all serious about your stargazing..

Great book, lots of info! Similar to some others but I still find it very useful. The smaller size also makes it easy to use as my actual "field book". For perspective, I'm a novice stargazer with a dobsonian scope.

Jay Pasachoff's Field Guide to the Stars and Planets has been around since I started studying Astronomy many years ago, and in my opinion is the best single work for someone interested in learning about the sky. It is quite comprehensive and the maps drawn by Wil Tirion and other graphics are beautifully done. The material in this book is pretty sophisticated, for a beginner H. A. Rey's 'The Stars' is unbeatable.

The manual is great; this is the second version I have owned. Unfortunately there's only two years left on this version.

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