

RECOMMENDED READING, ATLASES, AND SOFTWARE

- Astronomy**, a non-technical monthly magazine for amateur astronomers (Canada and U.S.: (800) 533-6644; www.astronomy.com).
- The Backyard Astronomer's Guide (3rd ed.)**, by Terence Dickinson and Alan Dyer. Firefly Books (Canada: (800) 387-6192, United States: (800) 387-5085; www.fireflybooks.ca), 2010. The best guide to equipment and techniques for amateur astronomers, by two experienced observers.
- Catalog of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific**, an excellent source of astronomical educational resources ((415) 337-1100; www.astrosociety.org).
- Catalog of Sky Publishing**, a good source of a variety of astronomical materials, including items listed on this page. ((866) 644-1377; www.shopatsky.com).
- Exploring the Night Sky**, by Terence Dickinson. Firefly Books (see above), 1987. A guide to stargazing, recommended for children.
- A Field Guide to the Stars and Planets**, by Jay M. Pasachoff. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 2012. In the Peterson Field Guides series, this classic work (also available as an e-book) is packed with star maps and accessible information.
- Nightwatch (4th ed.)**, by Terence Dickinson. Firefly Books (see above), 2006. An excellent introductory observing guide.
- Sky & Telescope**, a monthly magazine widely read by both amateur and professional astronomers ((866) 644-1377; www.skyandtelescope.com).
- SkyNews**, the Canadian magazine of astronomy and stargazing, published bimonthly ((866) 759-0005; www.skynews.ca).
- Starlight Nights**, by Leslie Peltier (1900–1980), 1965. Sky Publishing. Anyone who enjoys the night sky should read this book.
- Atlas of the Moon**, by Antonín Růkl, Gary Seronik (Editor). Sky Publishing, 2007. A first-rate lunar atlas for amateur astronomers, currently out of print, but may return.
- Millennium Star Atlas**, by Roger Sinnott and Michael Perryman. A comprehensive atlas based on data from the *HIPPARCOS* satellite. Three volumes, each covering 8 hours in RA. Contains more than 1 000 000 stars to magnitude 11 and more than 10 000 clusters, nebulae, and galaxies on 1548 charts (out of print).
- Sky & Telescope's Pocket Sky Atlas**, by Roger W. Sinnott, 2007. Introductory atlas containing 30 796 stars to magnitude 7.6, many double stars, and the brighter deep-sky objects, on 80 charts. Spiral-bound, folds flat, great for a small telescope.
- Sky Atlas 2000.0 (2nd ed.)**, by Wil Tirion and Roger Sinnott, 1998. Large format and well done. Contains 81 000 stars to magnitude 8.5 and 2700 clusters, nebulae, and galaxies on 26 charts; laminated version available.
- Uranometria 2000.0 Deep Sky Atlas**, by Wil Tirion, Barry Rappaport, and Will Remaklus, 2001. A second edition of the popular atlas, with stellar data from the *HIPPARCOS* satellite. Contains more than 280 000 stars to magnitude 9.75 and 30 000 clusters, nebulae, and galaxies on 220 double-page charts.
- Computer-based Planetarium Programs**: Available for a variety of platforms, e.g. *Coelix*, *ECU V6.0 (Earth Centered Universe)*, *MegaStar5*, *Redshift 7*, *Starry Night*, *TheSkyX*, *Stellarium* (freeware), and *SkySafari*. For more information, see the catalogues listed above or do an Internet search at, for example, www.google.com.
- Applications for Mobile Devices**: There is a rapidly expanding universe of convenient “apps” for smart phones and tablets: star charting, lunar phase, observing logs, telescope controllers, and so on. See: Apple iTunes (www.apple.com/itunes); BlackBerry App World (appworld.blackberry.com); Windows Marketplace (www.microsoft.com/en-ca/corp/windows-phone/); and Android Market (market.android.com). Also see Andrew Fraknoi's article at tinyurl.com/c63hk4a.