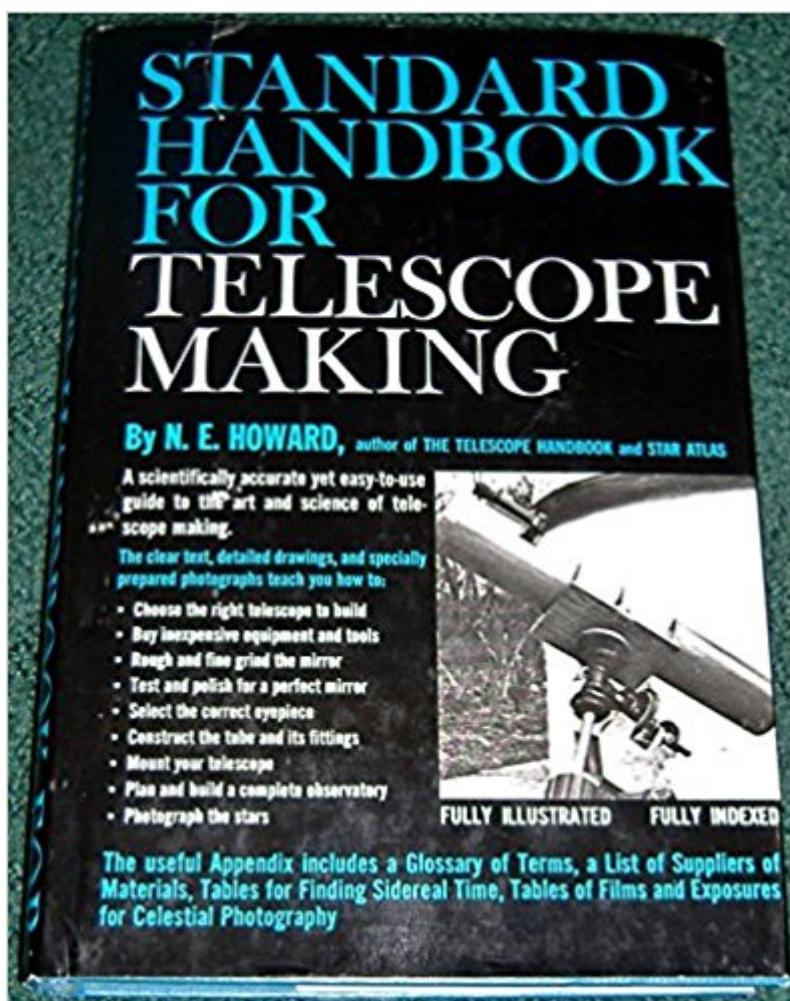


The book was found

Standard Handbook For Telescope Making (Telescope Making)



Synopsis

A scientifically accurate yet easy-to-use guide to the art and science of telescope making. The clear text, detailed drawings, and specially prepared photographs teach you how to: * chose the right telescope to build * Buy inexpensive equipment and tools * Rough and fine grind the mirror * Test and polish for a perfect mirror * Select the right eyepiece * Construct the tube and its fittings * Mount your telescope * Plan and build a complete observatory * Photograph the stars. * Fully Illustrated * Fully Indexed * Appendix including Glossary of Terms, Tables for Finding Sidereal Time, Tables of Films and Exposures for Celestial Photography

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This is the book I checked out of the library when I made my first 8" Newtonian telescope mirror in the 70's. It's clear, straightforward, and not overwhelmingly technical. It gives enough detail to make a usable telescope. But it does not give you enough information to completely examine the mirror

and insure you'll come out with a great one. I highly recommend Texereau's standard "How to Make a Telescope" for making and testing the mirror. If you want to make a Dobsonian mount (the way to go for most homemade scopes) then Richard Berry's "Build Your Own Telescope" with 5 plans is a good start - it can be used alone, but I like Texereau's testing methods and explanations. Texereau was chief optician of the Paris Observatory and spent time all over the world at large observatories -including the USA- repairing mirrors that weren't quite right.

Amateur telescope making became popular in this country in the 1920's and was always primarily aimed at producing a Newtonian reflector on a German-style equatorial mounting. With the advent of inexpensive optics and the Dobsonian mount, the field is now more restricted to those who assemble to telescope from parts or those who simply like to "push glass." I used this book when making an eight inch Newtonian in the early 1960's and can attest that the German type mounting laid out is an excellent one. It does use 1 5/8 inch steel shafts for the axes, which is a little odd sized, and a 169-tooth gear on the polar axis, which was available from one vendor back then, but the mounting is a fine one. It uses a combination of pipe fittings, ball- or roller-bearings and some basic machined parts. This mounting could easily hold an 80 lb scope.

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