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Patrick Moore On The Moon



Synopsis

Sir Patrick Moore is the undisputed expert on the stars and planets. His first "Guide to the Moon" was published more than fifty years ago, and reprinted many times; amid all the excitement of inter-planetary exploration and the rush to journey into space, Sir Patrick has never lost his fascination with our nearest heavenly body. This book explores his intimate knowledge of the Moon's surface structure, its origins, its place in the general scheme of the Universe and its close relationship with Earth. What was once remote and mysterious is now almost conquered territory, our knowledge extended immeasurably by the Apollo missions and more recently lunar probes. Yet the questions remain. Is there evidence to show there was once life on the Moon? Is there life there now? What does the Moon tell us about the beginning of life, or the end of life even, on Earth? In his new book, Sir Patrick reviews our present knowledge of the Moon in the lucid and lively manner he has made all his own.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

From the moment that you start reading this book, you will realise the passion that Patrick Moore has for the Moon. In this book he reviews the early folklore and superstitions that early man had for the Moon, these are from around the world and make fascinating reading. Then he brings the reader up to date with all the latest knowledge gained from automatic probes and the apollo Moon landings. This is Patrick Moores writing at its very best and is a must have book for all astronomers and enthusiasts of all ages.

Patrick Moore always writes well but this may be his best. He was fascinated by the moon from the age of eight and he knows *everything* about it. In what you might expect to be a tedious history of man's knowledge of the moon he throws in so many sidelights, stories from mythology, personal recollections and the like that you're simply captivated. I think almost anyone who sits down to start this book would be drawn in. There simply was no better astronomy author than Patrick Moore. As he approaches the modern era he has even more personal stories and has discussed the moon with all the astronauts. He gives even-handed coverage to the Russian Luna probes which preceded anything the US could do in the early days and again knows many of the personalities himself. The first 150 pages are text with many small, clear diagrams and a section of color pictures, the remaining pages are appendices including a detailed description of the moon with larger diagrams, quadrant by quadrant. The bad news? Cassell has done an absolutely miserable job of printing this book. The font is small, too light, almost faint. Footnotes... get your magnifying glass out. On top of that the pages are a little glossy and the covers are double-thickness making it almost impossible to hold like a normal paperback. While I would love to recommend this book to kids or adults, I think kids would find the look of the book off-putting and anybody over 50 will have difficulty reading it in any other than the brightest light. If they had selected a more readable, larger font, I would have bought copies of this book to give to the kids I know with telescopes.

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