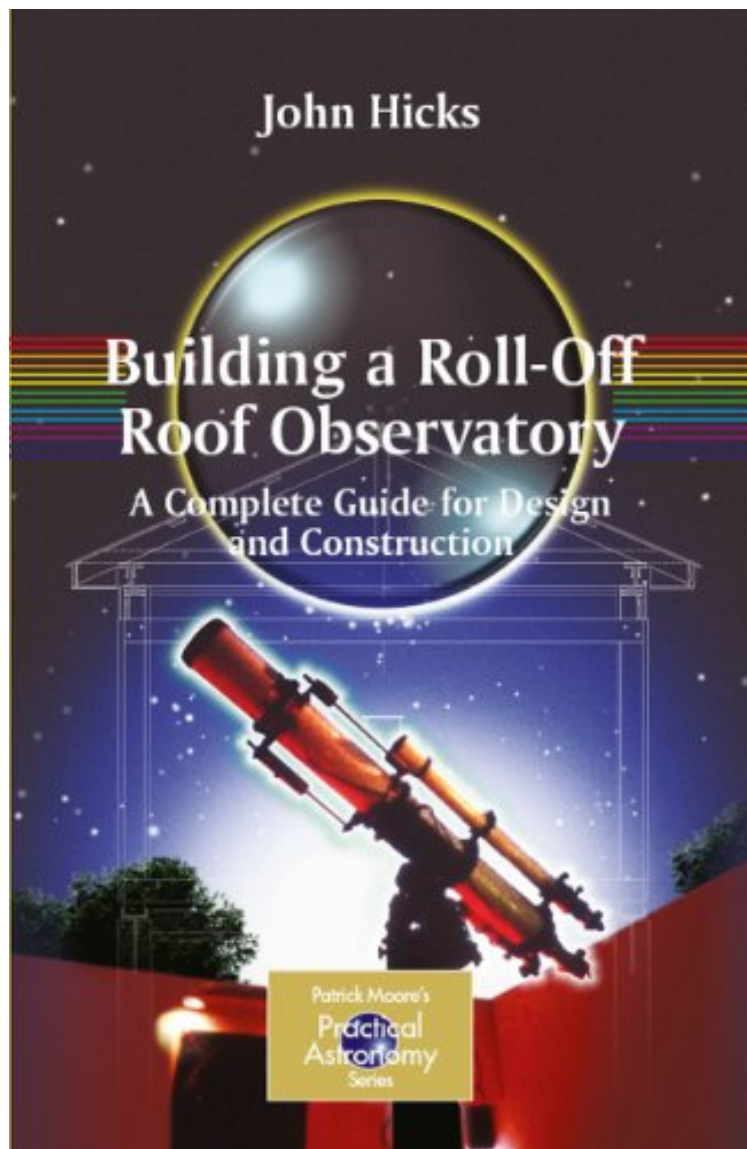


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Building a Roll-Off Roof Observatory: A Complete Guide for Design and Construction (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series)

John Stephen Hicks

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John Stephen Hicks : Building a Roll-Off Roof Observatory: A Complete Guide for Design and Construction (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Building a Roll-Off Roof Observatory: A Complete Guide for Design and Construction (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Some useful information, but by no means a "guide"By David Lee HudsonVery disappointed in this book. It is nothing more than a bunch of pictures of different observatories which I can see online by searching google images. The book is not well organized, has the feel of a book written in the 1950s on a typewriter, and honestly doesn't present a lot of useful information to help you plan out building an observatory. Instead it just seems to present a bunch of random tidbits on various aspects. The subtitle says "A complete guide...." yet there is no list, plan, step by step guide or other "checklist". It does go over most aspects such as walls, roof, electrical, etc. but I found information on the Internet much more useful in actually giving me a practical step by step "guide" that says "make these decisions, then take these steps".3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. READ BEFORE YOU BUILDBy Eric RachutIf you tire of setting up all the time, you'll opt for an observatory. That means a roll-off, unless you live in the tundra and want a dome's protection from winds in the wintertime. Roll-offs are cheap, easy to construct and allow star-hopping.I've had two built - the second by a contractor using this book and it is a joy.If you explore online, and anybody planning an observatory is going to do that, you will find that despite the copyright, this entire book can be downloaded from a (Red) Chinese source. Don't lose your soul.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Observatory reviewBy Gary TThis is a great source of information about the subject. It is well illustrated and the text correctly references the pictures. There is helpful information about location, design, and other things you might not have thought about. I highly recommend this book to anyone considering building a backyard observatory. It also comes with a CD that contains all the illustrations in the text along with detailed plans for construction.

Almost every amateur astronomer who has taken the pursuit to its second level aspires to a fixed, permanent housing for his telescope, permitting its rapid and comfortable use avoiding hours of setting-up time for each observing session. A roll-off roof observatory is the simplest and by far the most popular observatory design for today's practical astronomers. Building a Roll-off Roof Observatory is unique, covering all aspects of designing a roll-off roof observatory: planning the site, viewing requirements, conforming to by-laws, and orientation of the structure. The chapters outline step-by-step construction of a typical building. The author, both an amateur astronomer and professional landscape architect, is uniquely qualified to write this fully-detailed book. A professionally designed roll-off observatory could cost as much as \$3000 just for the plans; which are provided free with Building a Roll-off Roof Observatory.