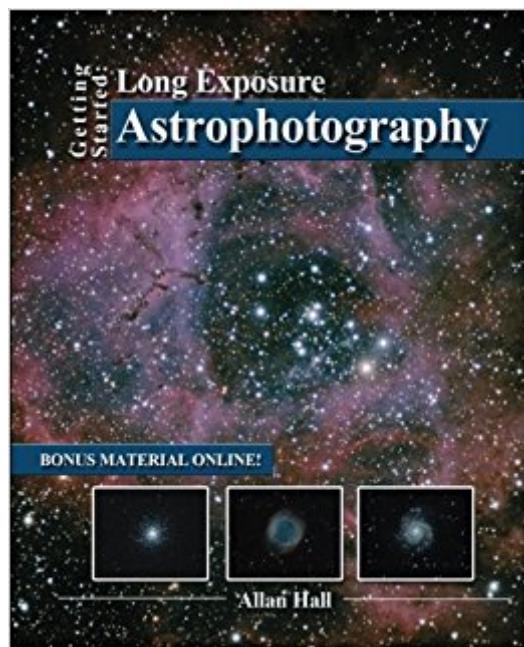


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# Getting Started: Long Exposure Astrophotography



## Synopsis

This astrophotography book is a primer and a fully-formed, practical guide for entering the world of long exposure astrophotography. Allan Hall's *Getting Started: Long Exposure Astrophotography* brings the rewarding pursuit of stellar imaging to your bedside table. With an academic flare and his signature approachability, Hall utilizes a suite of formats to provide readers with everything they need to begin - and develop. From charts, images, purchasing guides, walkthroughs and detailed descriptions, this *Getting Started* title is an in-depth resource for today's astrophotographer at any level of their discipline. Leading up to an incredibly useful list of the first twenty-five objects an astrophotographer might image with long exposures, this *Getting Started* title also offers a range of equipment advice and grounded descriptions of why certain phenomenon occur - as well as what they will mean for you and your shoots. Though founded in the clarity and precision of science and photography, astrophotography can nonetheless be one of the most artistic and even sensual crafts, as well as one of the most daunting. A road map is essential when pursuing a rich experience imaging and cataloguing the night sky. *Getting Started: Long Exposure Astrophotography*, with over 200 illustrations, images, charts and graphs bolstering its clear and instructive text, takes readers from practical equipment purchases, savvy preparations, and understanding of heavenly bodies, with the proper - and smart - ways to capture their expansive sight, intimate motion, and breathtaking portraiture. From purchasing your first astrophotography telescope, hooking up your camera, taking long exposure images, and finally processing that finished image, this book is rich with provisions and tips. Hall expertly balances his own procedures with general and inclusive guides from set-up to software recommendations. So, if you have ever wanted to take photographs of glowing nebulae, spiral galaxies and shimmering star clusters, this is the reference you want on your desk as well as with you out under the sky. A journey begins, with Hall exploring in-depth details of field rotation and focusing methods, as well as explaining not just the what and how, but the ever important why. So you won't just follow instructions for multiple image stacking, you'll understand the effect and craft of it. And the descriptions of atmospheric phenomenon affecting imaging won't end there, but lead you to experiments in which you can observe and understand. For today's astrophotographers, access is key. Encouragingly, there is more than ever in many ways. From the quality of equipment that you can purchase to the ready availability of software and meteorological information, it's a photographer's dream in many ways. Let this unprecedented scenario work for you, whether you're looking to take your first photos or enhance your development as a long-exposure cosmic curator. From start to finish, Allan Hall's *Getting Started: Long Exposure Astrophotography* book is your comprehensive

resource, taking you from entrance to expertise in the rewarding field of astrophotography - with a focus on the long exposure element that makes for such memorable, lifelong pieces of photography.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Astrophotography can be one of the most rewarding pursuits of a lifetime, it can also be one of the most daunting. This book uses over 200 illustrations, images, charts and graphs in addition to the text to help you understand what equipment you will need and how to make it all work so you can create breathtaking images of the heavens. From purchasing your first astrophotography telescope, hooking up your camera, taking long exposure images, and finally processing that finished image, this book will be your indispensable guide. If you have ever wanted to take photographs of glowing nebulae, spiral galaxies and shimmering star clusters, this is the reference you want on your desk as well as with you out under the stars. I will take you on a journey exploring in-depth details of field rotation and focusing methods, as well as explaining not just the what and how, but the ever important why. Actually see why you stack multiple images and what effect it has. Don't just read about how the atmosphere affects imaging, see it through experimentation that you can do at home on your own!

I got this book on a whim as I couldn't really find any other beginners Astrophotography books, especially in a reasonable price range. I was a little hesitant to order because of the lack of reviews but I am glad I did. To let you know my experience level: I am below amateur. I haven't even bought any equipment (other than a Celestron 60AZ which isn't good for much in this area, just bought it so

I could learn the stars) I haven't read the whole book yet either but I am about 1/4 through it. The author is very fair, he talks about his preferred methods and equipment but does not skimp on the details for the other options that are available. The very first thing he discusses in the book is everyone's greatest concern: cost. It is very detailed (like everything else in the book) and does not direct you one way or another, just lets you know the options depending on your desired result. He talks in detail about the different mounts, autoguiders, telescopes, cameras, accessories, and programs needed to process the images. This book is really a one-stop-shop as far as it goes for astrophotography. I have learned more in reading 75 pages of this book than I have with about a month of research browsing forums online. I am pleasantly surprised and highly recommend this book for anyone looking to start this hobby!

I used this book to go from ZERO to Astrophotographer. I have purchased some other books on the subject, as well, but this remains my favorite go-to problem solver. I guess one of my favorite things about the book, (and it is a theme that runs through several of Mr. Hall's other books, (I think I now own everything he's published on the subject of astronomy)), is that he solves problems with techniques that do not all involve spending large sums of money... he can lead the aspiring astrophotographer into the hobby without putting them into the poor house. (Mind you, there's no way to do any of this stuff for free, however.) He helps one spend their money where it does the most good. I consider the book indispensable, and I continue to get more good information out of it as I learn more. If I had to choose among the books that I have on the subject, this one would be my choice, hands down. (But, to be clear, I am greatly relieved that I am not forced to make that choice.) I bought this book before I purchased any astronomy gear. I believe that reading it and largely, if not completely, following Mr. Hall's advice, helped me build up an inventory of astrophotography gear that I use regularly, and helped me avoid spending money on things that I don't need, or that I would later want to replace with something "better" meaning that I'd have spent money twice on one thing. The book is a great investment. KWL

1st of All: I am an amateur with about 6 months experience. I have an Equatorial with an 8" Newtonian and been dabbling in Astrophotography with my DSLR. I love this book (first bought kindle... love it so much, that I also bought the hardcopy, because it does take baby steps... The author will not start with unfamiliar terms, without first introducing them. The build-up is tremendous... it certainly starts with the basics giving you a very thorough background... even when I "thought" I had surmounted some of those fledgling challenges... I now know not only what I did wrong, but why

it was wrong and how to fix it. Look, I'm pretty picky, and yes very resourceful, so I have been hitting the internet but still, have not found all the information.. and certainly not as well organized as the author presents it. So, now I'm checking for other books this author may have written. Great job Allan! thank you.

great book for the beginner who wants to know How AND Why....great practical examples of what software and hardware to you need, and what opensource solutions to use, and how to go about choosing what Telescope/Mount/Imager/guider/software you want and what you need. not one size fits all! I especially like the explanations on how to figure out what resolution camera you need for your guider and why (So you buy what you need now and where you want to go)...I especially like his writing style, it's a very easy read... My Son's comment was... wow, I spent all that time searching the web and reading lots of different articles to find this stuff...

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