

About this book

One of the hardest things I had to deal with when I started into astrophotography (and astronomy for that matter) was determining what targets I would image.

How do you know if an object is bright enough for my equipment? How do you know if an object is large enough to show up in my camera? When I take an image, it looks nothing at all like the image in the book, is this the right object? These were just a few of the many questions I had, and there were no real resources available.

There was a very popular book on the best astrophotography targets on the market, but it dealt with CCD cameras and telescopes which were way out of my price (and expertise) range.

Sure, one could do endless research on the internet by looking at images online you liked, find out what equipment they used, see if they shared any of their settings and then use that as a starting point. I mean there are only tens of thousands of people in two hemispheres using thousands of different setups imaging tens of thousands of different objects, how hard could it be?

Really fricking hard, that's how hard.

This book sets out to give you a list of objects that virtually any beginning amateur astrophotographer in the northern hemisphere can successfully image. I have included objects from several different deep sky object lists including the Messier, Caldwell, New General Catalog, Clark and Index Catalog. These include clusters, galaxies, nebulae and of course our Sun and Moon. The book also contains targets ranging from extremely simple to reasonably difficult so you get a good variety.

Hopefully this book will give you enough targets that you can get good results and be much more comfortable about moving on to more difficult targets.