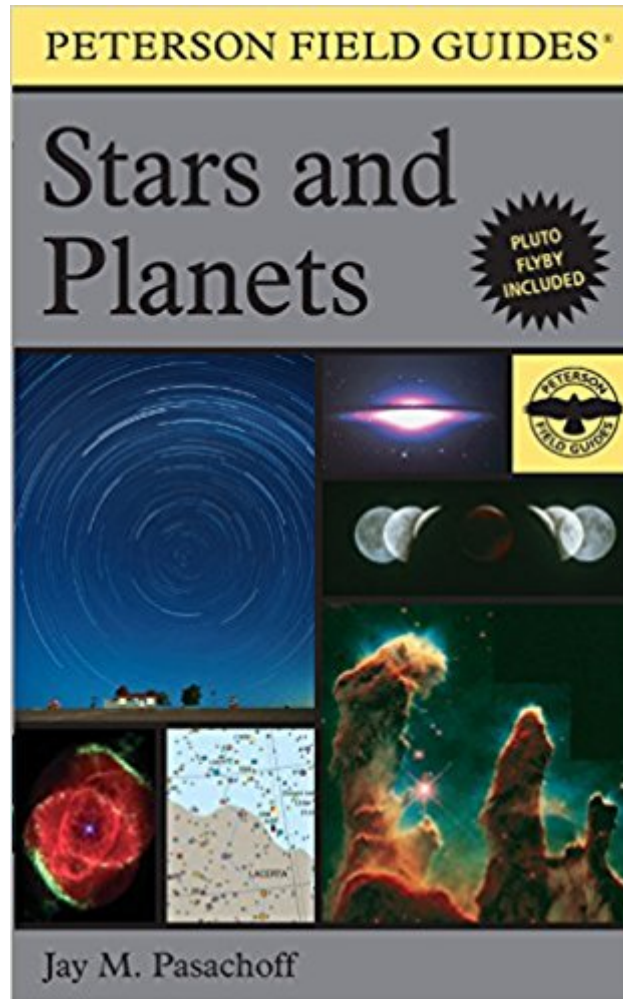


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# A Field Guide To Stars And Planets (Peterson Field Guides)



## Synopsis

The fourth edition of this best-selling field guide was revised and updated to include the latest information. As of the 14th printing (June 2016; the cover medallion says "Pluto Flyby Included"), all the time-sensitive material is valid through 2020: solar eclipses, phases of the moon, positions of the planets, and more. Twenty-four Monthly Sky Maps, revised and in color, show exactly what youâ™ll see when facing north or south in the night sky. Fifty-two Atlas Charts, also revised and in color, cover the entire sky, including close-ups of areas of special interest such as the Pleiades and the Orion Nebula. Two dozen pages cover the August 21, 2017, total solar eclipse whose path crosses the continental United States, how and where to view it, and other aspects of current and future solar eclipses.

## Book Information

Series: Peterson Field Guides

Paperback: 592 pages

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; 4th, Updated edition (November 23, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395934311

ISBN-13: 978-0395934319

Product Dimensions: 1.5 x 4.8 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (51 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #96,118 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Star-Gazing #97 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Astronomy & Astrophysics #205 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Astronomy

## Customer Reviews

and I wish I'd paid more attention to three-star reviews. The good news is that A FIELD GUIDE TO STARS AND PLANETS is a dynamo of facts, figures and photos and an amazing value at less than fifteen dollars. Just about everything you'd expect a beginning-to-established amateur astronomer to know, or have access to, is found here. But that's part of the problem. This is a field guide in the Peterson's traditional trim size, 7.2 x 4.6 inches. I got the distinct impression, many times, that a really knockout book with great design and photography was dying to break free of the unfortunate standard field-guide format. In Peterson's more mainstream guides, photos of scarlet tanagers or

coral snakes look quite good; in fact, they're a point of pride. In this book, with the same sized page, the crab nebula looks disappointingly dim and incomplete, as do many other inter-stellar objects. Perhaps the disappointing quality of many photos kept the book's editors from including more of them, because you will also encounter in this book pages and pages devoted to such technical information as sidereal rotation time, or comprehensive sky charts for all latitudes, for all year. The tenor of STARS AND PLANETS is heroic but ultimately disenchanting, especially factoring in its unforgiving soft cover. Ironically, these hurdles are redoubled in practical use since "in the field" for the amateur astronomer generally means in the dark. Don't crack that spine! Very frustrating. Don't get me wrong: Peterson's guides on the whole are top-notch and I don't mind a little line extension: twelve years ago they did a very credible job on a field guide of railroad locomotives using standardized line drawings and specs for each entry.

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