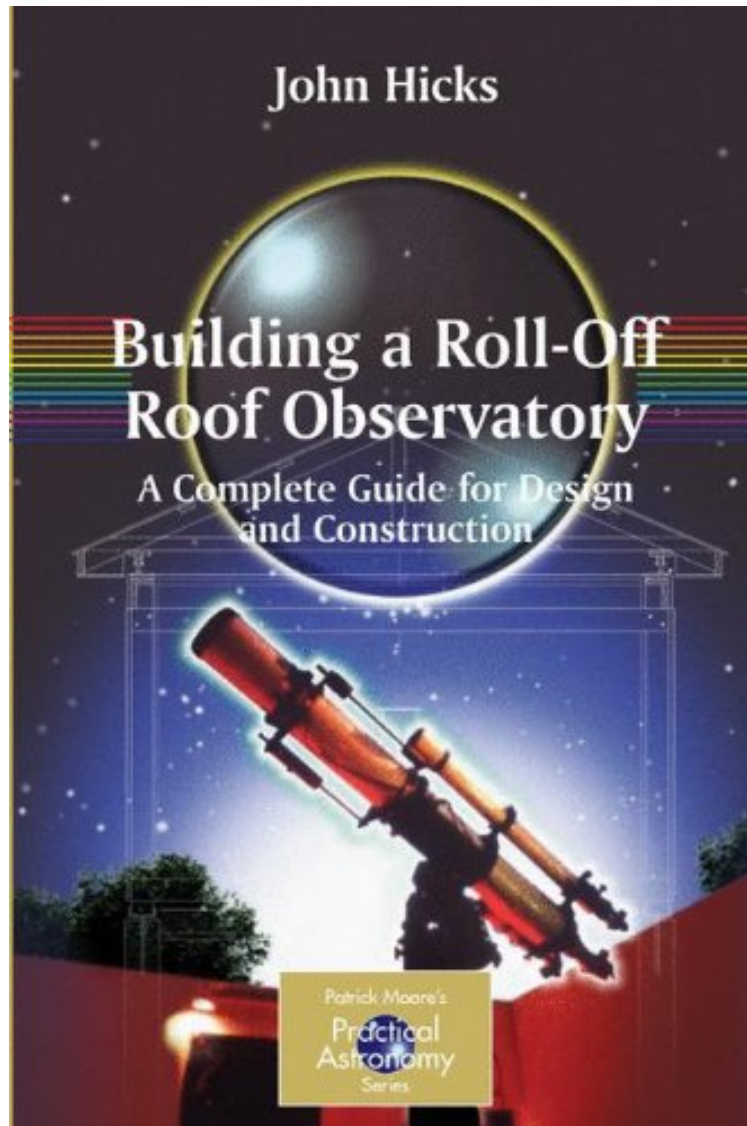


(Free and download) Building a Roll-Off Roof Observatory: A Complete Guide for Design and Construction (The Patrick Moore Practical Astronomy Series)

## **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.

From the reviews:"The subtitle of this book A Complete Guide for Design and Construction perfectly describes this well-illustrated accumulation of research and personal experience. The book opens with a discussion of the pros and cons of roll-off roof and domed observatories, and there are strong points made for both types. The time saved researching so much information makes this an extremely valuable resource to anyone considering building their own observatory whatever design you choose." (Mark Parrish, Sky at Night Magazine, July, 2009)"The author of this book has been selling plans and advising people on how to build roll-off-roof observatories for many years. He then proceeds to give detailed advice as to how to deal with everything from planning applications to the construction itself. Would I recommend the book? Yes." (Norman Walker, The Observatory, Vol. 129 (1211), August, 2009)From the Back CoverAlmost every practical astronomer who takes the pursuit to its second level aspires to a fixed, permanent housing for his telescope, permitting its rapid and comfortable use and 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 will help you decide whether to embark on the venture and will certainly provoke your enthusiasm for the project. The author, both an amateur astronomer and professional landscape architect, answers many of the common questions asked around observatory construction covering the following topics: Site planning, zoning, and by-law requirements common to most states, towns and municipalities Opportunities for locating the observatory Tailoring the observatory for your particular use Tools and structural components required to build it Variations in footing design to suit your soil conditions Variations possible in design through photographs from owners throughout USA and Canada Opportunity to utilize the structure for in combination with others (incorporating a Garden patio under the gantry for example) This fully-detailed book outlines step-by-step construction. A professionally designed roll-off observatory could cost as much as \$3000 just for these plans which are provided with Building a Roll-off Roof Observatory. About the Author John Hicks is a Professor of Urban Regional Planning, and also a qualified professional landscape architect. Based in Ontario, Canada, he is the principal and owner of John Hicks Associates, Environmental Planners and Landscape Architects, Site Planning, Park Planning Environmental Impact Assessment. He is also a long-time amateur astronomer and has had articles published in Astronomy, chapters in Dickinson Dyers The Backyard Astronomers Guide, and has made contributions to various other astronomy books.