



ETX SITE LIVE FORUM

July 2012



I have been asked many times over the years to start an online user forum. I have been testing the [Livefyre](#) "comments system" since mid-March as a "reader comments" section on my [Cassiopeia Observatory](#) reports. And in April 2012, a new "Live Forum" was started on the ETX Site. Livefyre has many nice capabilities and it is currently free (for the features I use). We'll try this out for another month and see how it goes. If you have any problems with the comments system please [Email Me](#).

Initially the forum will be unmoderated and all comments will appear immediately when a user posts them. I will change that only if it becomes necessary. You can reply to existing comments or start a new comment. Please limit entries to the same topics as you would for email to me. This first "Live Forum" will be for any discussions on those topics. If this initial Live Forum is successful, I may do live forums on individual topics, such as ETX, AutoStar, and Astrophotography, in the future. I have no intention to replace existing forums ([ETXAstro Yahoo Group](#), [Cloudy Nights](#), etc.), so feel free to use those as alternatives.

The Forum page will be archived once a month, or more frequently if the page gets too long. The April Live Forum page has been archived and is available on the [Forum Archive](#) as a PDF.

73 comments 9 people listening



mweasner

livefyre

✓ Following

Post to

Post comment

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mweasner 6 pts

@tIs Saw your message that the telescope rotates freely (although it is not showing up for me on this page; perhaps some limit has been reached for replies in the free version of Livefyre?). One last thing to check is that the proper telescope model and mounting mode is selected in the AudioStar. I don't have an AudioStar so can't really suggest what else to try with it. It could also be a problem in the ETX circuitry or gears. You would have to open up the base and check for problems there.

1 DAY AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts



And of course, as soon as I posted this new message, the missing ones appeared!

Like

Reply



scot

Thanks for your comments about the collimation and the default settings-this is a meade refurbished unit-no cameras or filters used.

scot

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

Try a test: remove the eyepiece and look into the eyepiece hole. You should see the secondary mirror and the sky in a circle around it. You will also likely be able to see your eye reflected back to you. Does the view look normal, and not negative?

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



scot

I'll give it a try and post back shortly.

scot

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



scot

Tried your test and the view appeared normal; secondary mirror and eye reflection. Also through the eyepiece at a mountain top appeared normal polarity. Could it be that with the nighttime viewing I was so far out of focus as to cause venus to appear as a reflection?

thanks,

scot

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

That does appear likely. You could have seen Venus as an out-of-focus blur of white light and the secondary mirror as the black "planet".

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



scot

Thanks again for your help-any advice as to where to put the focus knob at the start of nighttime viewing: all the way in? So many turns out?

scot

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

I don't have a LS so can't help with that. Right now you can easily achieve a focus using the moon. You can also focus on a distance (several miles) terrestrial object and that will be close. For LS support, you might want to join the LS Yahoo Group. See the Astronomy Links page on my ETX Site for the URL.

5 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



scot

I'll do that and once more, I appreciate your patient advice.

scot

5 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



scot

LS-6 SC reverse polarity problem?

Hi, new to this forum, and need to ask about a problem with my newly purchased LS-6 SC: Everything from terrestrial viewing to GPS auto alignment works great. Problem is when looking at a very bright venus and jupiter in the 4am sky, through the scope, both planets are black and the sky around white. I'm not using any filter, just the standard meade 26 mm eyepiece that came with the scope. I did try a different piece with the same results. Called meade customer service and they said reset the scope to defaults, which I did, but haven't been able yet to see if this helped due to monsoonal weather here in New Mexico. Please consider me as an astronomical idiot when replying as I'm really new to this. Thanks for any advice. sandssik@valornet.com

5 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



mweasner 6 pts

As discussed on the (ETX-)LS Feedback page (<http://www.weasner.com/etx/feedback/current/ls.html>), I stopped supporting the LS models on this Site in March 2010. As to why you are SEEING a negative view, that is really strange. You might want to see an eye doctor as there is no way the telescope by itself can do this.

5 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



scot

Sorry I missed that you stopped supporting the LS models and evidently wasted your valuable time-the reverse polarity was seen both by myself and my wife, and while I am blind in one eye, the other works fine. Just because you haven't come across this problem, does not make it a joke. Thanks for your comments.

scot

5 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



mweasner 6 pts

I wasn't joking. Visually seeing a negative image through a telescope is not something that should happen (obviously). If you were using a camera, that would be different, but you said you

were looking, not imaging. When viewing a bright object through a telescope, you should see dark sky and bright stars or planets or moon. If not, then perhaps the telescope is severely out of collimation and you are looking at reflections, not real objects. Setting the telescope AutoStar to the defaults will have no impact on viewing quality.

5 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



youdoc2 5 pts

hello.... i em trying to buy good telescope long time and now i only find Meade ETX-70 is that good telescope or i shuld wait and save money for something better ?

6 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts



youdoc2 See my ETX-70 comments on the Helpful Information: Buyer/New User Tips page. The ETX-80 and ETX-90 are the currently available models.

6 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



kenc3dan 5 pts

I just purchased an ETX-90 with AutoStar and am interested in attaching it to my Canon T2i/550D. I've ordered the Meade #64 adapter and Zhumell Mounting T-Ring for Canon EOS. First off, does that all sound right? Also, do I need to purchase a counterweight of some kind as well? Seems like I might be able to build a weight myself, I'm fairly handy. The scope.

[http://i.ebayimg.com/t/MEADE-ETX-90-ETX90-Telescope-AutoStar-/00/s/Nzc2WDgwMA==/\\$T2eC16NHJGQE9noMZGyYBP+Ho-LEQg~~60_3.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/t/MEADE-ETX-90-ETX90-Telescope-AutoStar-/00/s/Nzc2WDgwMA==/$T2eC16NHJGQE9noMZGyYBP+Ho-LEQg~~60_3.JPG)

The ring.

<http://www.telescopes.com/telescope-accessories/photographic/cameratring2.cfm>

My eventual goal is to drive it via laptop, gotta get the cable for that still. Hopefully I can just the 90 to set up properly when I get it. Great guides here!

Thanks for any help!

Ken

8 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@kenc3dan As long as the camera has a removable lens, that adapter will work. But there are a couple of issues. One is the extra weight hanging off the rear of the telescope. You will need a counterweight to balance. The other issue is interference between the camera and the mount base in some orientations. A better solution to both issues is to use something like the OPT Camera Adapter on the normal eyepiece hole. You can do both prime focus and eyepiece projection imaging with it. See my review on the Accessory Reviews: Astrophotography page.

8 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



kenc3dan 5 pts

→ 🔥 mweasner

→ 🔥 kenc3dan

Thanks so much! Gotta use those eyepieces, makes sense that's where you mount the camera. I've just received my ETX90 and it turns out it's the PE! I've just seen my first photons through it, even though it was just a house. It seems to have the special finder scope attachment but some genius has snapped off the transparent paddle that extends out of the body of the finder so it's not much good for finding things. I'm hoping to power the scope on for the first time this week and we'll see how much easier the PE part makes setup. I'm not expecting much but auto level and auto north sounds nice. It sets the clock or something too right? Thanks again!

7 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

→ 🔥 kenc3dan

→ 🔥 mweasner

Enjoy! You can try to get a Smartfinder lens from Telescope Warehouse (link on the Astronomy Links page). Or you can attach a different finderscope (see the Accessory Reviews: Finderscopes page). And no, the stock LNT does not set the time. You will have to do that manually in the AutoStar when you power on.

7 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



kenc3dan 5 pts

→ 🔥 mweasner

→ 🔥 kenc3dan

If I can ask another basic question, what does the 4-pin connector from the finder that goes into the tube do? Does it just power the finder in some way? I'm tempted to just remove the broken finder scope altogether but I'm not sure if it has any magical properties (auto North? auto level? etc.) I suspect it does little else other than break and point at things.

7 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@kenc3dan Power & communications for the LNT/Smartfinder module. The module is for auto level and North finding. Neither of which is needed for operation of the ETX.

7 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



Dissapointed

Guys. I purchased a used EXT-70. The first night, I set it up on my front porch waiting for dark. My wife knocked the thing over. Broke the mount on the gear drive side. Have tried JB Weld. It held for a while but had to remove both tube mounts. Since there are no drawings that have been found, pretty sure I don't have it back together correctly. I would like to have some new parts but have not had the opportunity to ask Meade. Are any parts available for these things? Unfortunately I bought cables and etc. as extras to run it off my laptop. Telescope still works as that but the computer drive will not work because of broken mount parts. Any help available?

17 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts



@Dissapointed For replacement parts, try Telescope Warehouse (link on the Astronomy Links page).

17 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



Dissapointed 5 pts



mweasner



Dissapointed

Thanks Mike. Have already been there. No Luck. Might have to try my hand at being a machinist again. The plastic keyway is going to be a problem no matter what.

13 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



Rik100 5 pts

I have a ETX 90 EC with a stripped declination gear. Anyone know how to get after market parts? Meade no longer carries these.

Thank you!!

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@Rik100 See the article "Replacement Gears source" on the Helpful Information: Telescope Tech Tips page on this ETX Site.

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



rlindberg 5 pts

Hey Mike, I have a 125....I also have an 80mm solar filter. I want to make a plate to mount the filter to the telescope. The only advice I need from you is this: Would you mount the filter in the center of the plate or should I offset it to avoid the center obstruction on the etx 125? Which would work best in your opinion?

22 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@rlindberg Offset will work best with the minimum light loss. You can make something like I did for my 8" with ETX solar filter: http://www.weasner.com/co/equipment/images/20-cassiopeia_obs_10_Jul_10_2.jpg

22 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



rlindberg 5 pts



mweasner



rlindberg

Thanx....that's exactly what I had in mind....

22 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply

rlindberg 5 pts



mweasner



rlindberg



By the way, how did that work out? Was there any distortion of the disk or other wierdness with the resulting image?

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@rlindberg No distortion. Just dimming of the image and a loss of resolution due to the significantly increased f/ ratio. The view dramatically improved when I got a full-aperture solar filter.

20 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



kenc3dan 5 pts

Can get an ETX 60 for free with autostar, wondering if it's possible to use mount via usb for panoramic photography etc with a dslr. Or.. swap out the scope and still use the mount for proper astrophotography? Thanks for any advice!

23 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@kenc3dan You can control the telescope by connecting a computer with a USB-serial adapter (or mobile device with the proper connection and software). For the AutoStar 494 (no number keys) you need a #506 serial cable. For the AutoStar 497 (has number keys), use a #505 serial cable. Note: not all USB-serial adapters work reliably with the AutoStar. I recommend Keyspan adapters. As to photography (terrestrial or astro), you can do it using the proper adapters for your camera.

23 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



kenc3dan 5 pts

@mweasner Thanks for the speedy reply. Given the close spacing of the forks/uprights is it possible to drop in another scope? Maybe an 8" SCT?

23 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@kenc3dan Let's see. You want to put a 200mm aperture telescope on a mount for a 60mm (or 70mm telescope). Simple math would indicate not a good idea.

23 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



qwack 5 pts

wondering...when I purchaed my etx-125 it came with 8 additional super plossi eye pieces...thee was no case for them as the previous owner said it broke, but he had all the individual white plastic cases they came in. He was keeping all the eyepieces in the ETX-125 hard case, in the holes provided, but not in the white plastic cases...

I was just wondering if the eye pieces should be in the white plastic cases and then put into the hard case or are they ok just in the foam. there are no top or end caps for any of these...just want to be sure I am taking care of everything

properly...I may buy a small case for the eye pieces so I don't have to keep the hard case open all the time, exposed to the elements while I'm viewing...

26 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@qwack I keep most of my eyepieces in the "bottle" (bolt style) cases. Just keeps them cleaner. The foam lined case should also be ok.

26 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



qwack 5 pts

Thanks, I think I'm going to put them back into those bolt cases, and purchase a small carrying case to hold them all...

26 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



TLS

I have a 2004 ETX-125 with Autostar controller. Last night I powered it up and started the alignment procedure. Everything went fine until the controller was supposed to point to the first reference star. The controller indicated it was slewing but the motor did not move. The next day I powered it up just to see if it would go through the alignment procedure. This time the driver motor started moving without any input from the controller and after about 5 minutes the telescope was pointing directly up. Any suggestions?

27 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@TLS Try a CALIBRATE MOTOR. If that doesn't fix it, put in fresh batteries and do another CALIBRATE MOTOR.

27 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



tls

👉 🔥 mweasner 👉 🔥 TLS

I tried CALIBRATE MOTOR and I'm still having the same problem. I am using a 120V AC/12V DC transformer to power the Autostar. I have removed the batteries. Would removal of the batteries cause this problem?

26 DAYS AGO

Like Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@tls @TLS Try using internal batteries. Disconnect the external supply. Do the CALIBRATE MOTOR. Some external adapters can cause problems.

26 DAYS AGO

Like Reply

TLS



👉 🔥 mweasner 👉 🔥 tls 👉 🔥 TLS

I replaced the batteries and started up on battery power. When I did the CALIBRATE MOTOR operation I received the error message MOTOR UNIT FAULT. I tried this several times and recieved the same error message. Any suggestions?

26 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@TLS @tls Some possible "cures": be certain not at or near a hard stop, don't overtighten the axis locks, reverse the HBX cable ends, unlock the locks and slowly move the telescope by hand back and forth hard stop to hard stop (redistributes lubrication), do a RESET, disconnect the AutoStar for 24 hours, reload the AutoStar software 4.3Eg).

26 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS

👉 🔥 mweasner 👉 🔥 TLS 👉 🔥 tls

I did all you suggested but nothing worked. So I purchased the 505 connector cable set and downloaded the latest version of the Autostar software. I connected everything up and loaded the Autostar software on to my 497 handbox. I recieved a message on my computer that the software had been loaded. So I disconnected to 505 connector cable and turned off the telescope power. When I turned the telescope back on I had nothing on the handbox. I then went through the procedure for using the safe loader to restore a damaged handbox, (Holding down "ENTER" + Scroll Down and powerd up the telescope) but got nothing on the handbox. I have fresh batteries in the telescope and the power light on the scope goes on when I power up, but the handbox is totally dark. Any suggestions?

18 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts

@TLS @tls How many minutes did the "download" to the AutoStar take? Also, are you using a real RS-232 port on your computer? (not all USB-serial adapters work reliably with the AutoStar)

18 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS

👉 🔥 mweasner 👉 🔥 TLS 👉 🔥 tls

The download took about 15 minutes to complete. During the download the hand box dispalyed the message "Downloading Do not Disconnect." Once I recieved the message that the autostar update was complete the handbox was still illuminated but there was no message. The 505 connector cable is connected to the serial port on my computer. I am not using a USB-Serial adapter.

18 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply

mweasner 6 pts



@TLS @tls Download should take almost 30 minutes. You likely interrupted it by disconnecting too early. (the software loaded message was in error). Try using StarPatch from www.stargps.ca. Put the AutoStar into Safe Load again (Enter and Scroll down).

18 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS

I tried starpatch with no success. I recieved an error message that starpatch is unable to connect to the handset and was prompted to put autostar into safe Load. I attempted the safe load startup with no success. The handset is dark and does not respond. I have double checked all connections and they are fine.

18 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@TLS Since StarPatch can't see the AutoStar and since nothing appears on the AutoStar, it sounds like the AutoStar is not receiving power. Check the HBX cable if you can to see if it is passing power. If it is, and if there is a good connection to the AutoStar, it would seem that something has failed in the AutoStar.

17 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS

👉 🔥 mweasner 👉 🔥 TLS

I replaced the HBX cable with an ethernet cable and still have no power to the HBX. I'll check the cable and make sure I'm getting power the telescope, but it's looking more like I need a new Autostar. Thanks for all your help and thanks for putting together such a great web site!

17 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@TLS Thanks. And good luck. Keep us posted.

17 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS

👉 🔥 mweasner 👉 🔥 TLS

I purchased a new audiostar controller. I trained the drives and the next night I took the scope out for a trial. I started up Audiostar and after entering the DATE, TIME, and DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME, I attempted the EASY ALIGN procedure. The first star Audiostar picked was Arcturus. The telescope started slewing and then stopped well before getting to Arcturus. The display continued to read CTR ARCTURUS SLEWING but the telescope did not move. After a few minutes with no movement I shut it down. I waited a few minutes and powered up again. This time I recieved a MOTOR FAULT error. I cycled the power again and received the same MOTOR FAULT error. I'm at my wits end with this. Any suggestions?

7 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@TLS Did you do a CALIBRATE MOTOR? Try that. If you can't get to that option, disconnect the controller and leave it disconnected for 24 hours.

7 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS



mweasner



TLS

I left the scope for 48 hours, then powered it up only to receive the MOTOR FAULT error with constant beeping. I cycled the power a few more times and on the third time it powered up fine. But when I attempted the EASY ALIGN procedure I ended up having the same results. The telescope started slewing toward Arcturus, but after moving about 15 deg to the East and about 30 deg in altitude the telescope stopped moving. The same display as before, CTR ARCTURUS SLEWING, but no motion from the telescope. I shut it down and repowered only to be back to MOTOR FAULT error with constant beeping. Any suggestions?

3 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator



TLS

Check for a physical obstruction. Unlock the axes and slowly move the telescope horizontally by hand. Does it rotate almost twice around? Do this slowly; if there is an obstruction and it is a wire, you don't want to cut the wire.

3 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



TLS



mweasner



TLS

I am able to move the the telescope freely on both axes.

1 DAY AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator



TLS

Saw your message that the telescope rotates freely (although it is not showing up for me on this page; perhaps some limit has been reached in the free version of Livefyre?). One last thing to check is that the proper telescope model and mounting mode is selected in the AudioStar. I don't have an AudioStar so can't really suggest what else to try with it. It could also be a problem in the ETX circuitry or gears. You would have to open up the base and check for problems there.

1 DAY AGO

Like

Reply



qwack

So, I got the ETX-125EC, has autostar, and I don't think it was ever used, still has protective plastic sheet on it...it also has 9 eye pieces with it...I have a few questions, but 1st let me say that I put the scope on the tripod took it outside last night,

and just looked at the moon..I was outside for several hours, looking through different eye pieces....It was just amazing!!

Now for the questions...the finder eyepiece with the crosshairs...the moon was a blur, even when I tried to focus the eye piece, didn't matter just roundish blur, almost double image at times,. think maybe needs to be cleaned?? which brings me to what is the proper way to clean the eyepieces...and if cleaning doesn't fix, any ideas why blurry??

I read in Meade PDF manual that you should only clean telescope lens with camel brush and or use baby nose syringe, to just blow dust off...which I have a nose syringe I will try (1st make sure completely clean ..LOL) but what about inside scope...I really don't want to open this scope up, and i hope not necessary, but when I peered down looking through the top lens I can see what appears to be some dust inside, think it's dust but not really sure??(didn't notice when I cked it out) when I changed out eye pieces and looked through the holder I can see some dust...is it something that I should just not worry about or can it possible scratch mirror??

Last, I am looking into getting #64 t mount for my camera, id says its for an SLR camera...I am assuming I can still use it with my DSLR...or is astrophotography better with film camera over digital...

I thank you all for your help...can't wait to take it out to the park so I can look at saturn, view is abstrusted from my house...oh last is there a finder scope that had laser pointer or something on it...would help when manually trying to point the scope...I want to learn to adjust and find on my own before I use the autostar... thanks again...

28 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@qwack For cleaning tips see the article "Cleaning Optics" on the Helpful Information : Buyer/New User Tips page. Using the techniques there you can clean the exterior surfaces. Unless really bad, I wouldn't worry about a little dust on the mirror. Don't shine a flashlight down the tube to check for cleanliness. Doesn't work. Regarding the finderscope, can you see the focus change when you rotate the lens? As to photography, yes you can use the #64 with a DSLR with the proper T-Ring adapter for you camera. But I'd suggest using some like the OPT Camera adapter (see the Accessory Reviews: Astrophotography page). It will do prime focus imaging using the top eyepiece hole and you can also do eyepiece projection imaging. Mounting a camera at rear port can have some issues due to camera weight and interference between the camera and telescope munt base.

28 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



qwack 5 pts

I will check out the Cleaning Optics section...sorry I should have looked around sight before asking, but thank you for being kind about pointing me to the right place...I did see a change when I was focusing the finderscope..but never got a clear image. almost like a big blurry light on top of the moon, I was pretty sure I saw the moon come somewhat into focus, but there was a light onto of it...not sure that makes sense...thats why I wonder if the finderscope lens if dirty??

I will check out the OPT adapter too...I was wondering about the weight of the camera hanging on the back of the tube....

Thanks for all your continued help.

27 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@qwack The finderscope is not a high quality telescope so perhaps you are seeing some blurring from that. Try focusing on a star. Don't expect a sharp view across the entire field of view.

27 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



qwack 5 pts



Thank you I read the Cleaning Optics section, and printed out some of the tips to have handy along with Dr. Clays solution...I also read about the finderscope, and that Grease can get on the lens from the focusing...ah ha..thats what is on the lens...removed the rubber eye cup, and clean the lens and Wa La, a nice clear image....I also wanted to check my scope to see if it was a New or Old version ETX-125...and was very happy to see the metal ball bearing...

haven't looked at anything since my first moon viewing as very cloudy skys :-(hopefully this weekend will be good...considering a moon filter as my son likes to look at the moon...

Thanks again.

26 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@qwack Super! Enjoy. Moon filter is very useful. Reduces glare and "eye pain" when viewing a bright moon.

26 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



Dan

Hello:

My SkyFi controller failed after an hour of use. No power light. They are going to send a replacement.

Is this the same thing that happened to yours? Did you get it replaced, and is it still working?

Thanks!

28 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply





mweasner 6 pts moderator

@Dan Mine was on rechargeable batteries when I detected a burning smell when I looked, the SkyFi had no lights. Replacing the batteries did not help. It was an eval unit and has not been replaced.

28 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



qwack 5 pts

Hi:

purchasing a used etx-125ec from the original owner who bought new mid 2003... comes with hard case, premium tripod? and 8 additional eyepieces...its like new...is \$450 a great price, fair, or too much...

Hasn't been used for 2 yrs, he took out and put new batteries in today and said all working, going to check it out tomorrow...I printed copy of tips for buying used telescope from this site...since going during day, can't check what stars look like, but can check for scratches on optics...

any help appreciated..thanks in advanced..

Joi

1 MONTH AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@qwack Don't know what a "premium tripod" is. There are really only two Meade tripods that were available for the ETX-125: #883 and #884. Other than that, if all is ok with the telescope and accessories, that's a good price.

1 MONTH AGO

Like

Reply



bdeetz 5 pts

Hello, I bought a used ETX-90EC as my first reflector. I'm pretty sure there is something going on that is wrong. Its primary mirror is loose. By that I mean it wiggles and shakes when the telescope moves. Because there is play between the front and back of the mirror, my question is which part of the assembly does the primary mirror mount to; the front or the back (where the focusing assembly is mounted).

1 MONTH AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@bdeetz The primary mirror does move slightly when focusing but should not wiggle or shake. Something is loose. You will have to disassemble the rear of the telescope to find the problem. There are several articles on the Helpful Information: Telescope Tech Tips page that can assist you. You will likely need to re-collimate the optics when done. There are articles on that on the Telescope Tech Tips page as well.

1 MONTH AGO

Like

Reply



bdeetz 5 pts



mweasner



bdeetz

Thanks a lot. I have everything working quite well. I think I finally have the collimation corrected too. Saw Saturn for the first time through my 6mm lens. I'm so excited to start exploring with this scope.

Am I expected to delete this post from the live forum in order to keep the page clear or will the server clear it out eventually?

24 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply



mweasner 6 pts moderator

@bdeetz Enjoy! (I clear all the entries at the end of each month.)

24 DAYS AGO

Like

Reply

Feedback Archive

Check the [Feedback Archive](#) for previous editions of the Feedback pages.

Go to the [ETX Home Page](#).

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