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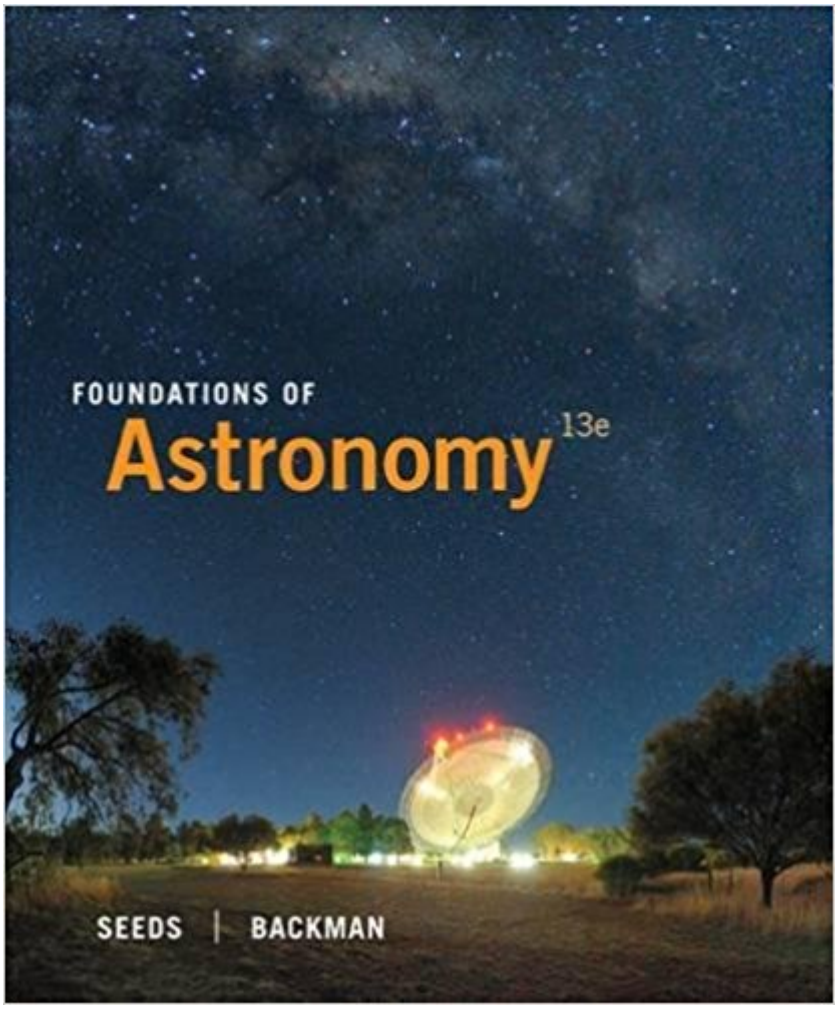

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Synopsis

Fascinating, engaging, and extremely visual, FOUNDATIONS OF ASTRONOMY, Thirteenth Edition, is renowned for its current coverage, reader-friendly presentation, and detailed, yet clear explanations. The authors' goals are to help you use astronomy to understand science--and use science to answer two fundamental questions: What are we? And how do we know?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mike Seeds was a professor of physics and astronomy at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, from 1970 until his retirement in 2001. In 1989 he received F&M College's Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. Mike's love for the history of astronomy led him to create upper-level courses on archaeoastronomy and on the Copernican Revolution ("Changing Concepts of the Universe"). His research interests focused on variable stars and automation of astronomical telescopes. Mike is coauthor with Dana Backman of Horizons: Exploring the Universe, 12th edition (2012); Universe: Solar Systems, Stars, and Galaxies, 7th edition (2012); Stars and Galaxies, 8th edition (2013); The Solar System, 8th edition (2013); and ASTRO, 2nd edition (2013), all published by Cengage. He was senior consultant for creation of the 20-episode telecourse accompanying his book Horizons: Exploring the Universe.Dana Backman taught in the physics and astronomy department at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, from 1991 until 2003. He invented and taught a course titled "Life in the Universe" in F&M's interdisciplinary Foundations program. Dana now teaches introductory Solar System astronomy at Santa Clara University and introductory astronomy, astrobiology, and cosmology courses in Stanford

University’s Continuing Studies Program. His research interests focus on infrared observations of planet formation, models of debris disks around nearby stars, and evolution of the solar system’s Kuiper belt. Dana is employed by the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California, as director of education and public outreach for SOFIA (the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy) at NASA’s Ames Research Center. Dana is coauthor with Mike Seeds of Horizons: Exploring the Universe, 14th edition (2018); Universe: Solar Systems, Stars, and Galaxies, 7th edition (2012); Stars and Galaxies, 8th edition (2013); The Solar System, 8th edition (2013); and ASTRO, 2nd edition (2013), all published by Cengage.

Flash card option is very nice to have when studying, I only wish I could’ve made the text larger. Otherwise, a great app for a student that doesn’t want to pay full price for a textbook that is only needed for a month. I will be using this again for any other books I may need to rent in the future.

This book was great for the class. Has a lot of great content and covered pretty much everything there is to know about astronomy. We had to buy the new edition, but the instructor looked over both the new edition and this edition and found there was no difference, so it also saved me money. I recommend this book, but check with your instructor if you can use this edition over the new one.

Great book. We rented it for school class. Saved a fair sum of money. Would do it again.

I feel a bit odd reviewing a textbook...because it’s not as though someone buying it is really going to have a choice in the matter...but keeps harassing me to review it so I suppose I will give a brief impression as a student at a junior college.As far as textbooks go, I found this one to be above average. Tons of full color illustrations/pictures...interesting side notes and critical thinking exercises and points...a touch of humor interjected once in a while. "You don’t want to go to mars wearing a cheap spacesuit!" Strangely, the material seems more difficult in the earliest chapters, as opposed to other textbooks and courses that build up your knowledge of the material before introducing more difficult concepts. The later chapters are mostly comprised of things you learned in the third grade, just at a survey course college level. This seems counterintuitive at first, but truthfully mastering the more difficult portions first make for a more enjoyable and better understood experience later on. For those not "math minded", the equations presented can be intimidating at first glance (what are all these symbols???), but truthfully I barely have a decent grasp on Algebra and I was able to work them out very easily after a few practice runs. The text overall is not remotely math heavy. Overall I

found this very user friendly, engaging, and as enjoyable as a textbook can be. So, while you are going to have to shell out an obscene amount of money for a book you won't take another look at after 12-15 weeks...at least this big, hardcover tome is filled with pretty pictures and interesting material...which is more than you'll be able to say about most!

Bought this book for my son, got a great deal, he is interested in Astronomy and unlike most textbooks, this one is interesting and has answered a lot of the questions he and i had when we discuss the universe. Thank you so much, Love Love Love the book

The book is very detailed in the world of Astronomy and it has helped me learn alot about why things happen in our vast universe. Great study guide asked questions thay made everything scientific and how to look and imagine about our universe

Just as described.

Outstanding information. I am a bit cheap, so I like to buy textbooks that are a couple of years out of date. The information in this 2011 edition is perfectly good for a hobbyist like me.

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