

Issues with the use of telescopes

Magnification

Magnification determines how much larger the image is as compared to the size of the source of the light (the object)

$$\mathbf{Magnification = \frac{f_o}{f_e}}$$

Where

f_o is the focal length of the objective

f_e is the focal length of the eyepiece

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From the group exercises, most of the object the average observer would look at at actually relatively large.

Magnification is not the most important characteristic of a telescope for a backyard astronomer.

Professional astronomy also requires the examination of *deep sky objects*, which require a high magnification.

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Further problems – if the image produced by the telescope does not accurately represent the source, and high magnification might only magnify the inaccuracies.

The crucial issue - RESOLUTION

