

# The Perfect Machine: Building the Palomar Telescope

The Palomar Telescope is one of the most important telescopes in the world. It has been used to make some of the most important discoveries in astronomy, including the discovery of the expansion of the universe and the first images of black holes.

The telescope was built in the 1930s and 1940s, and it was a major engineering challenge. The telescope's mirror is 200 inches in diameter, making it the largest telescope in the world at the time. The telescope is also mounted on a massive equatorial mount, which allows it to track objects in the sky as they move.



## The Perfect Machine: Building the Palomar Telescope

by Ronald Florence

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 917 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

X-Ray : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 654 pages

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first images of black holes, and the discovery of new planets outside our solar system.

The telescope is still in use today, and it continues to be one of the most important telescopes in the world. The Palomar Telescope is a testament to the ingenuity and engineering skill of the people who built it, and it is a reminder of the power of science to unlock the secrets of the universe.

## **The History of the Palomar Telescope**

The Palomar Telescope was conceived in the early 1920s, when astronomers began to realize that they needed a larger telescope to study the faintest objects in the sky.

The telescope was built by the California Institute of Technology, and it was funded by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. The telescope was built on Palomar Mountain in California, and it was completed in 1948.

The telescope's mirror was cast by the Corning Glass Works, and it is the largest monolithic telescope mirror in the world. The mirror is made of Pyrex, a type of glass that is resistant to thermal expansion.

The telescope's mount was designed by the Warner & Swasey Company, and it is one of the most accurate telescope mounts in the world. The mount weighs over 500 tons, and it is capable of tracking objects in the sky with an accuracy of 0.1 arcseconds.

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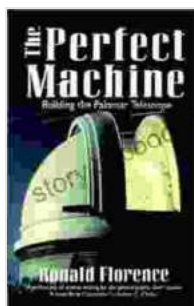
first images of black holes, and the discovery of new planets outside our solar system.

## The Legacy of the Palomar Telescope

The Palomar Telescope is one of the most important telescopes in the world, and it has played a major role in the development of astronomy.

The telescope has been used to make a wide range of discoveries, including the discovery of the expansion of the universe, the first images of black holes, and the discovery of new planets outside our solar system.

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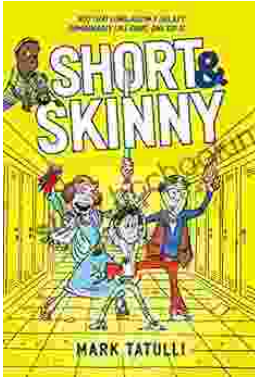
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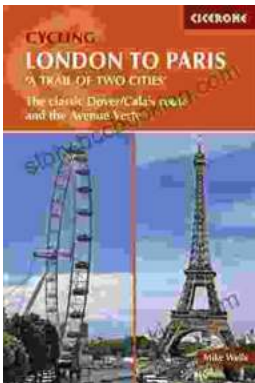
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