



TELESCOPE LOAN POLICY

1. ELIGIBILITY

Telescope loans are restricted to current Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory patrons, 18 years of age or older or have a parent/guardian present. You may not borrow a telescope if your account has fees totaling \$10 or greater.

2. LIABILITY

The user agrees to assume all legal liability for the cost of repair or replacement in the event of loss due to theft, damage, negligence, or misuse.

The user understands that any injuries or outcomes may arise from my own actions, the actions of others, inaction or negligence, or conditions related to travel. Nonetheless, I acknowledge and expressly assume all risks and dangers associated with borrowing a telescope, whether described above, known or unknown, and inherent or otherwise. I take full responsibility for any injury or loss, including death, which I may suffer, arising in whole or in part from my participation in borrowing a telescope.

The user understands to never look at the Sun through this telescope or its finder scope, even for a moment, as permanent eye damage could result. Pointing the telescope at the Sun for even a moment could result in parts melting.

3. AVAILABILITY

Telescopes are available for holds in our online catalog and at the Circulation Desk for loan on a first-come, first-served basis. Eligible users **MUST** present a valid Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory library card when requesting a telescope.

4. USE

The telescopes are made to be robust, but please treat them as the precision instrument that they are. No food or drink should be consumed in the immediate vicinity of the telescope. Do not leave in car. During transport, the telescope must be secured with seat belt or otherwise secured to prevent damage.

5. LOAN PERIOD

The loan period for telescopes is 7 days. Telescopes must be returned in person during business hours to the Check Out Desk no later than thirty minutes prior to closing. **If the library is closed, do NOT leave the telescope outside or at the Book Drop.** Keep the telescope in your possession until you can return it in person during business hours. If you leave a telescope outside when the library is not open, you will be disqualified from checking out a telescope in the future and the borrower will be responsible for any and all damage or loss of library telescopes left outside of business hours.

6. ADVANCE BOOKING

Holds may be placed. There is no guarantee of a specific telescope from our collection. The first available will be made available.

7. REPLACEMENT AND DAMAGE FEES

The user assumes full financial responsibility for a lost, stolen, or damaged telescope. Telescopes 7 days overdue will be assumed lost and the total replacement cost will be charged to the patron's account. A repair fee will be assessed for damaged telescopes based on the cost of the repairs. Any telescope equipment malfunctions should be reported immediately to Rancho Mirage Library and Observatory staff. Replacement fees are as follows:

ITEM	REPLACEMENT COST
Telescope	\$300
Eyepiece	\$95
Case/equipment bag	\$20
Red flashlight	\$10
Audubon Constellation Guide	\$15
Modification hardware	\$10
TOTAL	\$450

8. RETURNS

Telescopes must be returned in-person to staff at the Circulation Desk no later than thirty minutes prior to closing. Patrons will be required to wait while the telescope is checked in to ensure all equipment is intact.