

# Astronomy on the personal computer alexpa

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**What are computers used for in astronomy?** Computers with the help of large telescopes can take high quality pictures of planets, moons, stars, and even other galaxies. These telescopes can take pictures of things billions of miles away perfectly clear. In space telescopes, computers work to transfer the data from the telescope to people on the ground.

**Is computer science important for astronomy?** Astronomers and astrophysicists deal with incredibly large datasets that no human could analyze by hand in a feasible amount of time. Knowledge of computer programming is essential to making sense of the amount of information being collected about the cosmos.

**What is the most important tool for astronomy?** A telescope is a tool that astronomers use to see faraway objects. Most telescopes, and all large telescopes, work by using curved mirrors to gather and focus light from the night sky. The first telescopes focused light by using pieces of curved, clear glass, called lenses.

**What are NASA computers called?** Pleiades (/ˈplaɪˈdiːz, ˈpliː-/ ) is a petascale supercomputer housed at the NASA Advanced Supercomputing (NAS) facility at NASA's Ames Research Center located at Moffett Field near Mountain View, California.

**Is astronomy more math or science?** Maths makes it happen All of this amazing space exploration relies on smart mathematicians and astronomers who are responsible for everything from measuring the distance between stars and planets to calculating the thrust, speed and trajectory of objects we need launched into space.

**Is astronomy a hard major?** In fact, astronomy is a challenging science, but not because the universe is inaccessible in the conventional sense. Rather, astronomers must apply equal measures of analytic thinking and imagination, logic and intuition, to answer the most fundamental questions about the cosmos: What are stars and planets?

**Do you need to know coding for astronomy?** Most astronomers, in my opinion, use C, C++, and Python in their studies. You'll also come across some older Fortran codes that are still in use. However, most astronomers do not major or minor in computer science in college.

**What tools do most modern day astronomers use?** Telescopes and radio dishes are used from the surface of the Earth to study visible light, near infrared light, and radio waves. Attached to these telescopes are various tools like special made CCD cameras, a wide variety of filters, photometers and spectrometers.

**What is the most important technological invention in astronomy?** The invention of the telescope played an important role in advancing our understanding of Earth's place in the cosmos. While there is evidence that the principles of telescopes were known in the late 16th century, the first telescopes were created in the Netherlands in 1608.

**What is the oldest astronomy tool?** The astrolabe is a calculation and pedagogical tool of Greek origin (2nd century BC). It made it possible to solve astronomic problems without any calculations. It identified, for example, the time that the sun or the stars would rise or set, and the sun's height at its highest point above the horizon, etc.

**Which is the best computer in the world?**

**Does NASA use Mac or Windows?** NASA's Pleiades runs on Linux due to its stability. Other NASA computing systems, including those used in space missions and ground control, also utilize Linux.

**Which laptop does NASA use?** The workstations at NASA's facilities, and laptops used in the ISS are made by HP, IBM and Dell. The IBM ThinkPad is used predominantly on space shuttles, certified for use because they pass off-gas testing,

radiation testing, thermal testing, fire and fire suppression tests.

**Does astronomy pay well?** Avg Salary Astronomers earn an average yearly salary of \$150,530.

**Do you need calculus for astronomy?** This usually includes 2-3 semesters of calculus, differential equations, linear algebra, advanced calculus, etc. And depending on the college, they may have one or two astronomy classes available such as intro. to astronomy and observational astronomy.

**Is being an astronomer hard?** The analysis of the universe is a vastly complex pursuit. Astronomers are required to meticulously comb through a large amount of data to look for shifts and patterns which could appear inconsequential to the untrained eye.

**What GPA do you need for astronomy?** Most Ph. D. programs in physics, astronomy, or other related fields have a minimum acceptance GPA of around 3.0. It is difficult to get into most programs with a GPA that is lower than this.

**How many years is a PhD in astronomy?** Duration of Graduate Study Nearly all students complete their PhD degree requirements in five or six years.

**What is the hardest thing to learn in astronomy?** What's the hardest thing to explain about the universe? Neil: The hardest thing, I think by far, is how we analyze spectra — light broken up into its component colors. It's so abstract, so removed from the actual object we're studying.

**Can you self learn astronomy?** Can I Learn Astronomy by Myself? Yes, you can learn astronomy independently. The field is wonderfully accessible for self-learners, thanks to many available resources. Abundance of Learning Materials: In today's digital age, a multitude of resources are available to the aspiring astronomer.

**Is astronomy taught at MIT?** MIT hosts a vibrant interdisciplinary program of research and education in Astronomy and Astrophysics.

**What is the easiest way to learn astronomy?** Observing the Moon is one of the easiest ways to get started with astronomy. You can track the lunar cycle, and use binoculars or a telescope to see how your view of it changes. When the Moon is full,

for example, it tends to be dazzlingly bright and one-dimensional.

**How have computers helped astronomers?** Indeed, the computer has revolutionized the use of the telescope to the point where the collection of observational data is now completely automated. The astronomer need only identify the object to be observed, and the rest is carried out by the computer and auxiliary electronic equipment.

**What are the uses of computers in space?** Computers help in contacting and executing commands on a spacecraft, satellite, rover, etc. Computers are used to process the large sets of data obtained from astronomical observations and derive meaningful information from the data. So, without computers the space race wouldn't have seen this much advancements.

**How is technology used in astronomy?** Modern detector technology does far more than just take pretty pictures: it's the way astronomers get any data about the stars, galaxies, and other bodies they study. Astronomical detectors use cutting-edge materials and electronics research to provide the best information possible to astronomers.

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**What is one major space discovery that used computers?** One major space discovery that heavily relied on computers is the discovery of exoplanets. Exoplanets are planets that exist outside our solar system and orbit other stars. Detecting these distant worlds requires advanced technologies and data analysis, and computers play a crucial role in this process.

**What are 5 facts about astronomy?**

**How is AI used in astronomy?** AI is used to develop predictive models of astronomical data. These are used in predicting future events, motion of asteroids, behavior of stars, evolution of galaxies.

**What type of computer is a personal computer?** Personal computers “Microcomputer” is now primarily used to mean a PC, but it can refer to any kind of small computer, such as a desktop computer, laptop computer, tablet, smartphone, or wearable.

**What do NASA computers calculate in hidden figures?** Behind the scenes, their triumphs were enabled by hundreds of unheralded NASA workers, including "human computers" who calculated their orbital trajectories. "Hidden Figures," a 2016 book by Margot Lee Shetterly and a movie based on the book, celebrates the contributions of some of those workers.

**What space technology is used in everyday life?** The technologies behind inventions like portable vacuum cleaners, blankets, invisible braces, and many more, were first discovered by NASA solely for space exploration. Other technological advancements pioneered by space research include cardiac pumps, artificial limbs, the Internet, and the camera sensors.

**How are computers used in astronomy?** Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian astrophysicists use computer models for a huge variety of astronomical systems: Simulating the three-dimensional structure of magnetic fields and materials around a newborn star.

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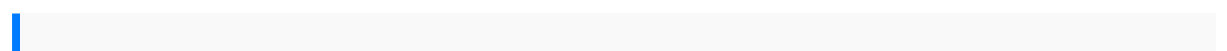
**What is the main tool for modern astronomy is technology?** Telescopes and radio dishes are used from the surface of the Earth to study visible light, near infrared light, and radio waves. Attached to these telescopes are various tools like special made CCD cameras, a wide variety of filters, photometers and spectrometers.

**What is the strongest computer in the world?** Currently top of the list, Frontier — built by supercomputing giant HPE Cray — became the first exascale computer in

the world when it went online in 2022.

**What does a human computer do at NASA?** Before there were actual computers, they were people. At NASA, women had to do all the math and science calculations for aircraft and space missions. From 1935 to 1942 more women began to work at NACA because many men volunteered to be in the war. The women that worked for NASA were often called "Human Computers".

**Which laptop is used in space?** ThinkPads have been used heavily in space programs. NASA purchased more than 500 ThinkPad 750 laptops for flight qualification, software development, and crew training, and astronaut John Glenn used ThinkPad laptops on his spaceflight mission STS-95 in 1998.



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