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## Meade #495

# Meade Autostar #495 Controller User Manual

Model: #495 | Brand: Meade

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The Meade Autostar #495 electronic controller is an advanced accessory designed for use with Meade DS Series telescopes. This manual provides comprehensive instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your Autostar #495 controller, enabling you to easily locate and track celestial objects with precision.



*Image: The Meade Autostar #495 Controller. This handheld device features a numeric keypad, directional buttons, and a red LED display. The display currently shows "SOLAR SYSTEM SATURN", indicating its capability to locate celestial bodies. A coiled cable extends from the bottom of the unit for connection to a telescope.*

## 2. SETUP

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To begin using your Autostar #495 controller, follow these steps to connect it to your Meade DS Series telescope:

- Power Off Telescope:** Ensure your Meade DS Series telescope is powered off before connecting the Autostar controller.
- Connect Autostar:** Locate the control panel on your DS telescope. Disconnect any existing electronic controller (such as the #492 dual-motor control system, if applicable) and plug the Autostar #495 handbox into the designated port.
- Power On Telescope:** Turn on your telescope. The Autostar display should illuminate.
- Initial Alignment:** The Autostar will prompt you to perform a quick alignment procedure. Follow the on-screen

instructions, which typically involve pointing the telescope at two bright stars or known celestial objects. This alignment usually takes approximately one minute.

5. **Ready for Use:** Once alignment is complete, the Autostar #495 is ready for operation.

### 3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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The Autostar #495 controller simplifies astronomical observation with its intuitive interface and powerful features.

- **Go-To Functionality:**

Press the **GO TO** button to access the object database. Use the directional arrows and numeric keypad to select from a vast catalog of celestial objects, including planets, stars, galaxies, nebulae, and user-defined objects. Once selected, the telescope will automatically slew to the object's position.

- **Digital Readouts and Tracking:**

The Autostar provides continuous digital readouts of the telescope's position in Right Ascension and Declination. Once an object is located, the controller automatically tracks it in both axes simultaneously, ensuring the object remains centered in your eyepiece.

- **Nine-Speed Dual-Axis Operation:**

Use the directional arrow buttons to manually move the telescope. The Autostar offers nine different drive speeds, ranging from very slow (2x sidereal rate) for precise centering to fast (6 degrees per second) for rapid repositioning. You can move the telescope in either or both axes simultaneously.

- **Constellation Information:**

Explore constellations by pressing the appropriate arrow button (refer to the Autostar manual for specific button functions). The display will provide descriptions of constellation mythology and information about significant objects located within their boundaries.

- **User-Defined Objects:**

The Autostar #495 allows for the storage of up to 200 user-defined objects, enabling quick access to your favorite or frequently observed celestial targets.

### 4. MAINTENANCE

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Proper care will ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Autostar #495 controller.

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the handbox. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, which can damage the finish or display.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the Autostar controller in a clean, dry environment, away from extreme temperatures and direct sunlight.
- **Cable Care:** Avoid kinking or excessively bending the coiled cable. Store it neatly to prevent damage.

### 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

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If you encounter issues with your Autostar #495 controller, refer to the table below for common problems and their solutions.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
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Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Controller display is blank.	Not properly connected; Telescope not powered on; Faulty cable.	Ensure cable is securely plugged into the telescope's control panel. Verify telescope power. Inspect cable for damage.
Telescope does not move or track.	Incorrect alignment; Motors not engaged; Cable issue.	Perform alignment procedure again. Ensure motors are properly connected and engaged. Check cable connection.
Go-To function is inaccurate.	Poor alignment; Telescope not level; Incorrect date/time/location settings.	Re-align the telescope carefully. Ensure the telescope is level. Verify that the correct date, time, and observing location are entered into the Autostar.
Buttons are unresponsive.	Software glitch; Physical damage.	Try powering off and on the telescope. If problem persists, contact Meade support.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	#495
Brand	Meade
Compatibility	Meade DS Series Telescopes
Go-To Database	Extensive celestial object database, 200 user-defined objects
Drive Speeds	9-speed dual-axis operation (e.g., 2x sidereal to 6 degrees/sec)
Dimensions (Package)	39.37 x 33.53 x 9.91 cm (15.5 x 13.2 x 3.9 inches)
Weight (Product)	453.59 g (1 Pound)
UPC	709942922271

## 7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Meade Instruments provides a limited warranty for its products. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the documentation included with your original purchase or visit the official Meade Instruments website.

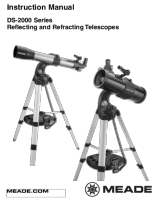
For technical support, service, or inquiries regarding your Autostar #495 controller, please contact Meade Instruments customer service. Contact information can typically be found on the Meade website or in your product's packaging.





### [Meade DS Digital Electronic Telescope Series Assembly and Operating Instructions](#)

Comprehensive assembly and operating instructions for the Meade DS Digital Electronic Telescope Series, covering models from 60mm to 127mm. Includes setup, alignment, operation, and details on optional electronic control systems.



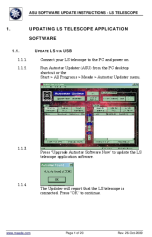
### [Meade DS-2000 Series Reflecting and Refracting Telescopes Instruction Manual](#)

Comprehensive instruction manual for Meade DS-2000 Series telescopes, covering assembly, features, and operation of both reflecting and refracting models with Autostar control.



### [Meade ETX-60AT & ETX-70AT Astro Telescope Instruction Manual with Autostar](#)

Comprehensive instruction manual for the Meade ETX-60AT and ETX-70AT Astro Telescopes, detailing setup, operation with the Autostar Hand Controller, advanced features, maintenance, and troubleshooting for astronomical and terrestrial observation.



### [Meade LS Telescope Software Update Instructions](#)

Comprehensive guide for updating the software on your Meade LS telescope using USB, mini SD card, and installing necessary software like Autostar Suite and USB drivers. Includes troubleshooting tips.



### [Meade Stella WiFi Adapter: Wireless Telescope Control](#)

Enhance your astronomy experience with the Meade Stella WiFi Adapter. Wirelessly control your Meade or compatible GoTo telescope from your tablet or smartphone using the StellaAccess app. Features easy setup, long battery life, and broad compatibility for seamless celestial exploration.



### [Meade LX90 Schmidt-Cassegrain Telescope Instruction Manual](#)

Comprehensive instruction manual for the Meade 8-inch LX90 Schmidt-Cassegrain Telescope with Autostar Hand Controller, covering setup, operation, features, and maintenance for amateur astronomers.