

Sky-Watcher S11610

Sky-Watcher Classic 200 Dobsonian 8-inch Telescope Instruction Manual

Model: S11610 | Brand: Sky-Watcher

1. INTRODUCTION

The Sky-Watcher Classic 200 Dobsonian 8-inch Telescope is a high-quality, easy-to-use instrument perfect for beginners and experienced astronomers alike. Its traditional design, featuring a large 8-inch aperture, provides bright and detailed views of celestial objects such as nebulae, star clusters, and galaxies. This manual will guide you through the setup, operation, and maintenance of your new telescope, ensuring you get the most out of your stargazing sessions.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

- **Never look directly at the Sun through the telescope or its finderscope without a professionally manufactured solar filter.** Doing so can cause immediate and irreversible eye damage, including blindness.
- Do not leave the telescope unsupervised, especially when children are present.
- Handle optical components with care to avoid scratches or damage.
- Ensure the telescope is placed on a stable, level surface to prevent tipping.

3. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Your Sky-Watcher Classic 200 Dobsonian package should include the following components:

- Telescope Optical Tube Assembly
- Dobsonian Base Assembly
- 9x50 Finderscope
- 25mm Eyepiece
- 10mm Eyepiece
- 2-inch Crayford-style Focuser with 1.25-inch Adapter
- Accessory Tray
- Hardware for Assembly

4. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

Follow these steps to assemble your Sky-Watcher Dobsonian telescope:

1. **Assemble the Dobsonian Base:** Refer to the included diagrams for proper orientation of the side panels, front panel, and circular base. Secure all components using the provided hardware. Ensure the azimuth Teflon bearings are correctly seated for smooth rotation.
2. **Attach the Optical Tube:** Carefully place the telescope optical tube into the cradle of the assembled Dobsonian base. The tube is secured by the patented Tension Control Handles, which allow for easy adjustment and stability.
3. **Install the Focuser:** The telescope comes with a 2-inch Crayford-style focuser. If using 1.25-inch eyepieces, insert the supplied 1.25-inch adapter into the 2-inch focuser.
4. **Mount the Finderscope:** Attach the 9x50 finderscope to its bracket on the optical tube. Ensure it is securely fastened.
5. **Attach the Accessory Tray:** Secure the accessory tray to the base using the designated holes and hardware. This tray provides convenient storage for your eyepieces.





Figure 4.1: Assembled Sky-Watcher Classic 200 Dobsonian Telescope.





Figure 4.2: Side view of the telescope, showing the solid tube and mount.

5. OPERATING THE TELESCOPE

Once assembled, your Dobsonian telescope is ready for observation. Here are key operational aspects:

5.1 Aligning the Finderscope

Before observing, align the finderscope with the main telescope. Point the main telescope at a distant, stationary object (e.g., a tree top or street light) during daylight hours. Look through the finderscope and adjust its alignment screws until the object is centered in its crosshairs. This ensures that whatever is in the finderscope's view is also in the main telescope's view.

5.2 Focusing

Insert an eyepiece (start with the 25mm for a wider field of view) into the focuser. Turn the focuser knobs to achieve a sharp image. The Crayford-style focuser provides smooth and precise focusing. Remember to use the 1.25-inch adapter if you are using 1.25-inch eyepieces.

5.3 Moving the Telescope

The Dobsonian mount allows for easy manual movement in both altitude (up-down) and azimuth (left-right). The patented Tension Control Handles allow you to adjust the friction for smooth movement and stability, even with heavier eyepieces. The Teflon bearings in the base ensure fluid azimuth motion.





Figure 5.1: Detail of the Dobsonian base with eyepiece holder and tension control handle.

6. MAINTENANCE

Proper care will ensure the longevity and performance of your telescope:

- **Cleaning Optics:** Dust on the mirrors or lenses should be removed with a soft brush or compressed air. For stubborn smudges, use a specialized optical cleaning solution and a microfiber cloth, applying minimal pressure. Avoid touching the optical surfaces directly.
- **Storage:** Store the telescope in a dry, dust-free environment. Use dust caps for the optical tube and focuser when not in use.
- **Collimation:** As a Newtonian reflector, your telescope's mirrors may occasionally require collimation (alignment). This is a critical step for optimal image quality. Resources for collimation techniques can be found online or in advanced astronomy guides.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are solutions to common issues you might encounter:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Blurred or fuzzy images	Out of focus, poor seeing conditions, misaligned optics (collimation)	Adjust focuser slowly. Wait for stable atmospheric conditions. Perform collimation.
Cannot find objects	Finderscope not aligned, incorrect star chart usage	Align finderscope (Section 5.1). Practice using star charts or astronomy apps.
Telescope movement is stiff or too loose	Tension Control Handles not adjusted correctly	Adjust the Tension Control Handles on the side of the optical tube to achieve desired friction.
No image visible	Dust cap on, focuser racked too far in/out, wrong eyepiece	Remove all dust caps. Adjust focuser through its full range. Ensure eyepiece is properly inserted.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Sky-Watcher Traditional Dobsonian 8" (203mm)
Optical Tube Length	8 Inches
Objective Lens Diameter	8 Inches
Focal Length	1200mm
Focuser Type	2-inch Crayford-style with 1.25-inch adapter

Feature	Detail
Eyepieces Included	25mm Super, 10mm Super
Finderscope	9x50 Straight-through
Telescope Mount	Altazimuth Dobsonian Mount with Teflon Bearings
Primary Mirror Reflectivity	94% (Borosilicate with Quartz, Titanium, Silicon Dioxide coatings)
Product Dimensions (assembled)	49 x 18 x 27 inches
Item Weight	34 pounds (Optical Tube: 20 lbs, Base: 25 lbs)

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Sky-Watcher products are manufactured to high standards. For specific warranty details, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Sky-Watcher website. Most products come with a limited warranty covering defects in materials and workmanship.

Returns: This product is eligible for 30-day easy returns from the point of purchase.

Customer Support: For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, or warranty claims, please contact Sky-Watcher customer support. You can often find contact information on the manufacturer's website or through your retailer.

Additional Resources: A detailed User Manual (PDF) is available for download: [Sky-Watcher Classic 200 Dobsonian User Manual \(PDF\)](#)