

Sky-Watcher Equinox-120

VITAL STATS

- ▶ **PRICE** £1,099
- ▶ **APERTURE** 120mm (4.7 inches)
- ▶ **FOCAL RATIO** f/7.5
- ▶ **FOCAL LENGTH** 900mm
- ▶ **LENS** FPL-53 doublet
- ▶ **FOCUSER** 2-inch dual speed Crayford
- ▶ **WEIGHT** 6kg (13.2lb)
- ▶ **SUPPLIER** Optical Vision Ltd
- ▶ **TEL** 01359 244200
- ▶ **WWW** opticalvision.co.uk

FOR Great value
AGAINST Diagonal costs extra

This telescope uses the same optics as the well-regarded Sky-Watcher Evostar 120ED Pro, but wraps them up in a new, higher quality tube that comes equipped with an excellent dual-speed Crayford focuser. The

tube is finished in a classy gloss black trimmed in silver with an extendable dew shield. It comes in a foam-lined aluminium case, and for an extra £99.99 there's a 2-inch dielectric diagonal with 99 per cent reflectivity.

The Equinox's 120mm front lens is made up of two parts and utilises FPL-53 glass. It showed very little false colour in out-of-focus star tests and virtually none once we had found focus, with the bright star Vega showing no false colour. The planet Jupiter had no colour issues either, although it showed red and blue colour at the top and bottom of its disc due to refraction in the atmosphere. This was nothing to do with the telescope's optics

and once we'd removed this atmospheric refraction with a green filter, Jupiter showed an amazing amount of detail given its low altitude.

On a night of near-perfect seeing, Vega, almost overhead, showed the Equinox's optical correction to be essentially perfect. Our views of the Double Double were the best we have ever seen, with clear separation between each

close pair. Views of the Alpine Valley on the 20-day-old Moon were also stunning. We couldn't have asked for more.

VERDICT

BUILD AND DESIGN	94%
EASE OF USE	96%
FEATURES	89%
OPTICS	97%
VALUE FOR MONEY	96%
OVERALL	94%

