

You know you're an Astroholic when...

A bit of light astro humour...

You know you're an "astroholic" when: •

1. The stools at your home bar are Stellar Observing Chairs.
2. Your outdoor furniture reclines, swivels, and has binocular mounts attached to the head of the chair/seat, and a gimballed drink holder on the armrest.
3. Your computer's clock is set to 24 hour format universal time.
4. Your skin is a pale "moon tan" from sleeping during the day.
5. You have a red light in the kitchen so you can come inside to make a cup of tea or coffee without destroying your night vision.
6. Your door stop is a counterweight.
7. You watch more NASA TV than movies.
8. You listen to more astronomy podcasts than music.
9. The back seat of your car has been replaced with a custom made scope cradle.
10. Your telescope is worth more than your car.
11. You plan your holidays around eclipses or shuttle launches.
12. Your letterbox is a pier mounted SCT with the corrector plate and mirror removed.
13. Your letterbox is polar aligned.
14. Your letterbox has Goto.
15. You use binoculars or a telescope to read your rain gauge.
16. You bought a cheap weather station to have an alternative interest when it's cloudy.
17. You refuse to sleep if the sky is clear no matter how tired you are.
18. You own a 12V hair drier (and have short hair).
19. The ladder you clean out your gutters with is the one you use to view through the eyepiece of your dob.
20. You can see into the backyard 2 doors down if you look around when viewing through your dob.
21. Base jumpers queue to look through your dobsonian scope.
22. Birthday party photos are HDR processed, stacked, levelled, curved, deconvoluted, and high pass filtered to reveal the subtle details in the candle flames.
23. You spend more work time surfing Ice In Space and Cloudy Nights than working.
24. Your spouse calls you by your IIS or CN username.
25. Your garden shed has a roll off roof, but your mower rusts outside in the rain.
26. Police have approached you with large bright lights held out to the side, to see what you're doing in the dark, and you refuse to open your eyes because it will spoil your night vision.
27. You have a parallelogram mount and large binoculars set up beside the outdoor spa.
28. Your Frisbee has the constellations marked on it.
29. You have a spectra of your kitchen light.
30. Your computer has an afterimage of Photoshop burned into the screen.
31. Your DSLR camera has a sticker: "My other camera is an SBIG".
32. You own a 2.5l thermos.
33. Your most valuable item of clothing is a freezer suit.
34. You keep forgetting that a 'newt' may be an amphibian.

35. Friends know to only invite you around at full moon.
36. You have >100 astronomy sites bookmarked.
37. Your idea of eye relief isn't a sweet young thing (or, at least, that isn't how you usually use the term).
38. You have a red light on top of your dob to warn aircraft.
39. You use a green laser pointer for PowerPoint presentations.
40. You read ephemerides more than the newspaper.
41. The rear window of your car has a centre spot so you can collimate the rear view mirror.
42. Your sleep is broken into 2 or more sleep periods based around astronomical events or imaging runs.
43. You cringe when someone mentions a shooting star, and then nonchalantly name the meteor shower it belongs to.
44. You surf Google Earth when bored looking for launch sites, observatories, or impact craters.
45. You've visited Coonabarabran while on holiday.
46. You eat dinner before astronomical twilight is finished.
47. You take batteries out of your torch to make your laser pointer work.
48. You close your eyes while working on your scope during the day.
49. You drive down the M4 and wonder where the Antares' turn off is?
50. Your favourite beer glass is FPL51 ED with a 2x barlow built into the bottom.
51. On a clear night, you gaze up, see a satellite and refer to it by name.
52. You get PMT every two months just before the AS&T is due in the letterbox (Pre Magazine Tension).
53. On clear nights the neighbours see you outside with two sets of binoculars, a laser pointer and a massive telescope and no longer call the police or bother to close their blinds when getting undressed.
54. You wonder why the kids' school photos don't have "diffraction spikes" in them.
55. You scour the Crazy John's and Telstra Shops looking for a mobile phone with a 6MP modded long exposure camera with T-thread and IR filter removed with Peltier cooling and has a Vixen style dovetail bar as an option.
56. When friends ask to see photos of your loved ones, you flip out your wallet and pics of Jupiter, Omega Centauri and M104 fall to the ground....
57. The spy eye in your front door has a Cheshire cross hair in it.
58. Your shaving mirror is BK7 with better than 1/12 wave dispersion.
59. You own more than one jump starter pack and you're not a mechanic.
60. You know NGC4755, M42 and M45 are the Jewel Box, The Great Orion Nebula and the Pleiades respectively.
61. Your laptop computer has water marks on it.
62. You use astro and image processing software more than MS Office.
63. You own more than one camera, scope and/or binoculars.
64. You know what time the GRS will transit tonight based on last night's observations alone.
65. You know at least 3 ways to find the SCP or NCP from other asterisms.
66. You know what spectral class the sun is.
67. You have fingerless black woollen gloves.
68. When you see the first star at night you assess the seeing and transparency rather than make a wish.
69. You run out of petrol in your car after travelling an extra 70km out of your way on the Motorways after leaving work just so you can boast that you saw 4 Messier objects on the way home (M5, M7, M2 and M4).
70. Your neighbours hear you calling your dogs in for dinner "Here Schmidt, here Cassegrain".
71. Your next child's name is going to be Ritchey Chretien
72. You fondly call your wife's G string tan line in summer the "Cassini Division".
73. You call your cat Schrödinger.

74. Your local council sets up a task force and posts security guards at the end of your street to catch the "roaming gangs of teenagers" who keep smashing all the street lights in your area.
75. You leave so many copies of astronomy magazines around your bedroom, your wife starts thinking Sir Patrick Moore is "hot".
76. You let your boss think you are surfing porn at work when you are really checking the ICE TRADE Classifieds for some HOT deals.
77. When all of your workmates stand around the water cooler complaining how its raining all week because some bugger washed his car, when you really know its because someone in your area has just taken delivery of his/her new telescope.
78. You keep a few endangered species in your backyard shed so that everytime one of the neighbours tries to start building their house on the vacant block of land next to yours, you lob one over the fence and call Greenpeace who delays the building for six months while they "rehabilitate" the critter.
79. You wash your primary mirror more than your car.
80. You have red lenses on your car headlights.
81. There is liquid paper on your Pink Floyd Album cover which now correctly reads "The FAR Side Of The Moon".
82. You actually have a Pink Floyd album cover.
83. You have to pay offset carbon footprint credits for your observatory power consumption.
84. Hubble images start to seem "low resolution" to you.
85. You have a Hydrogen Alpha filter on your 52" plasma TV.
86. You consider a 12" OTA on a EQ6 to be "Grab and Go".
87. Your car's reversing camera has a correct image finderscope and takes darks and flats every alternate image.
88. Your local telescope shop has a restraining order out on you.