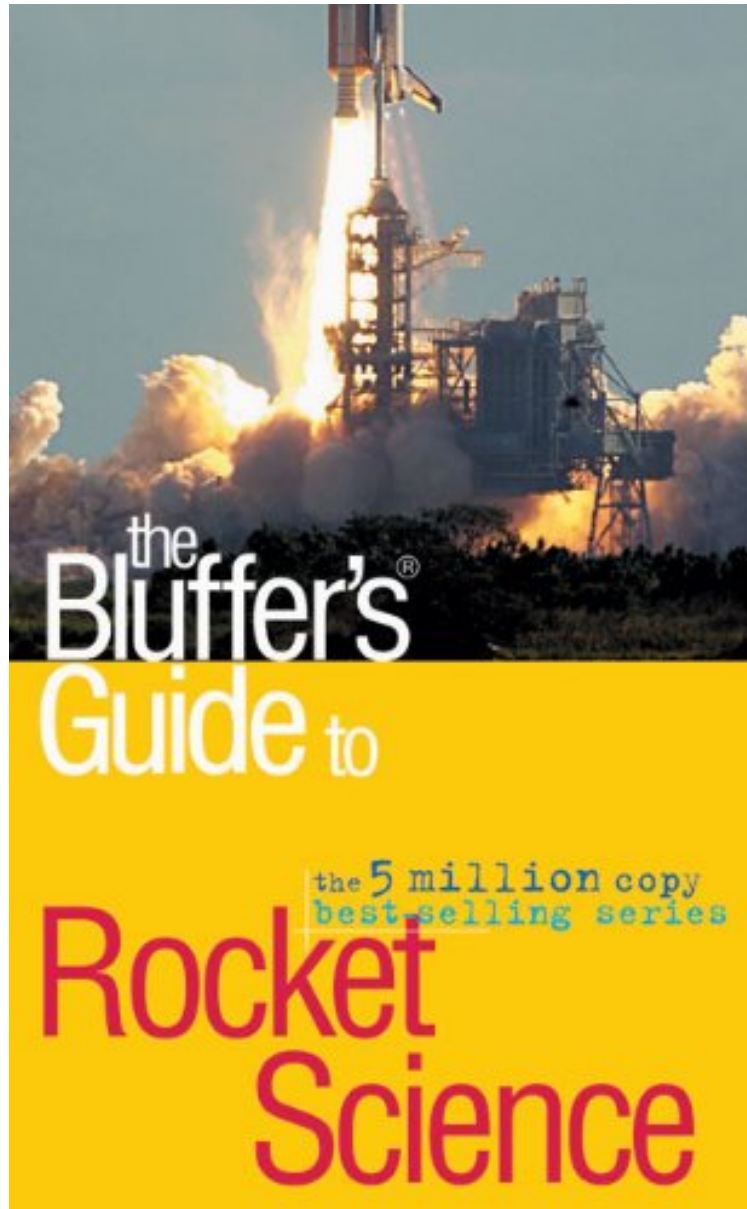


[Free] The Bluffer's Guide to Rocket Science (Bluffer's Guides)

The Bluffer's Guide to Rocket Science (Bluffer's Guides)

Peter Berlin

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Peter Berlin : The Bluffer's Guide to Rocket Science (Bluffer's Guides) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Bluffer's Guide to Rocket Science (Bluffer's Guides):

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Yes it is Rocket Science By Spaced out tourist Although the author is Swedish, he still manages to write a funny book. And although the book belongs in the Bluffer's Guide series, there is

a great deal of wisdom within its 87 pages. Behind each bluff there is more than just an element of truth. I loved his explanation of "Strap-on booster" in his glossary; "A kind of Viagra for rockets". Only a real rocket scientist could have written this, and the author manages to cover a wealth of material, from basic physics, history, satellites, spaceports to even considerations of the moral dimension of rocket science. This book is recommended for a light-hearted, yet informative read ideal for a short air trip - say from London to Basingstoke.

Introduction Popular comment has it that "it doesn't take a rocket scientist to ...," as in "it doesn't take a rocket scientist to program a mobile phone." This is true—it takes a teenager. A rocket scientist would intellectualize the whole process, press two buttons at once, and crash the software. The last person you would want to ask is a rocket scientist. Blown opportunities Many more millionaires have gone bankrupt trying to develop rockets than satellites. They have overlooked the fact that the operative word in "controlled explosion" is controlled. Gravity depravity Nobody knows what gravity really is, so don't blow your bluffing cover by trying to explain it. The only thing known for certain is that any two physical bodies will attract each other in proportion to their sizes (which fact is best not taken literally by oddly sorted couples). Lunar trick One Sunday afternoon, the 12-year-old von Braun strapped rockets to a cart, lit the fuse, and sent the fire-spitting vehicle careening down a street . . . His life-long aim was to send a rocket to the moon. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that flying a lunar mission is tricky.