



# Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide

By Jeff Hecht

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## Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide By Jeff Hecht

Updated to reflect advancements since the publication of the previous edition, *Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide, 3rd Edition* is an introduction to lasers and associated equipment. You need only a minimal background in algebra to understand the nontechnical language in this book, which is a practical, easy-to-follow guide for beginners. By studying the conceptual drawings, tables, and multiple-choice quizzes with answers provided at the back of the book you can understand applications of semiconductor lasers, solid-state lasers, and gas lasers for information processing, medicine, communications, industry, and military systems.

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## **Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide By Jeff Hecht Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"This book is an easy-to-follow guide that requires a minimal background in algebra. The use of simple language, drawings, tables and multiple-choice quizzes make this book an ideal text for advanced high school students, undergraduates studying physics and engineering, and professionals who work with lasers but lack a formal knowledge of the subject." (*Optics & Photonic News*, April 2009)

"College-level libraries strong in science and technology titles will appreciate this easy introduction guide to laser technology, which moves from the foundations of how lasers work and how they are used to discussions of specific advanced laser types, applications, and the science involved." (*The Midwest Book Review*, September 2008)

#### From the Back Cover

#### **An up-to-date and easy-to-follow introduction to laser technology**

Laser technology has become important in a wide range of practical applications, ranging from medicine and consumer electronics to telecommunications and military technology. Lasers are also vital tools on the cutting edge of research—eighteen recipients of the Nobel Prize received the award for laser-related research, including the laser itself, holography, laser cooling, and Bose-Einstein condensates.

Updated to reflect advancements since publication of the previous edition, *Understanding Lasers*, Third Edition offers an introduction to lasers and associated equipment at a level that nontechnicians can fundamentally understand. The author focuses on real-world lasers and assumes only a minimal background in algebra, making the book a practical, easy-to-follow guide for a broad audience.

Beginning with an overview of how lasers work, what they do, and how they're used, the book goes on to explore:

- Optics and laser accessories
- Semiconductor diode lasers
- Gas lasers
- Low-power laser applications
- Solid-state and fiber lasers
- High-power laser applications
- Lasers in research

Complete with conceptual drawings, tables, and multiple-choice quizzes with answers provided at the back of the book, *Understanding Lasers*, Third Edition serves as an ideal introduction to the subject for advanced high school students, undergraduate physics and engineering students, and professionals who work with lasers but lack formal training.

#### About the Author

**Jeff Hecht** is a science and technology writer who has covered the laser industry for more than thirty years. He cofounded Lasers & Optronics magazine and has been a contributing editor to *Laser Focus World* since 1991, where he was also managing editor for seven years. He has been a Boston correspondent for *New*

Scientist magazine since 1984 and is the author of eleven books. He has taught short courses on optics at SPIE, OSA, and IEEE LEOS conferences. He is a member of the IEEE, APS, OSA, and the National Association of Science Writers.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Henry Vance:**

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide, you may enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout men. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

#### **Theodore Mullis:**

This Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide is great reserve for you because the content which can be full of information for you who all always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. That book reveal it details accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but tricky core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no publication that offer you world with ten or fifteen small right but this guide already do that. So , it is good reading book. Hey there Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt this?

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Is it you who having spare time then spend it whole day by watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something new? This Understanding Lasers: An Entry-Level Guide can be the reply, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are so out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these textbooks have than the others?

#### **Audra Yoder:**

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