Kendrick Secondary Mirror Heaters

Purchasing Guide

This Purchasing Guide is devoted to traditional Newtonian Telescope designs (Dobsonian telescopes are Newtonian).

Dew and Frost can be a real aggravation, but the good news is it is almost always easily avoidable. For decades, Kendrick has been the most trusted name in Dew Prevention, and we offer an impressive range of Dew Heaters that covers almost every telescope design.

Whether you call your telescope design Newtonian, Dobsonian, Cassegrain, etc., they all involve 2 mirrors, and the smaller secondary mirror is always the one that is first to fall victim to Dew and Frost. Not only is the secondary mirror at the front of the telescope, but it has much lower mass than your primary mirror and is not able to retain heat for very long once the sun goes down.

Which Model Do I Need? Can we tell you the model that is right? Unfortunately, NO. There are thousands of telescope models and we just can't keep track. Nor do we have 1 of every telescope in our workshop. Manufacturers don't publish the specs we would need. The good news is that YOU have the telescope right in front of you! Follow this guide and you will know which is the best choice.

ALL of our Dew Heaters REQUIRE A DEW CONTROLLER and a 12VDC (13.8VDC nominal). NEVER connect a heater directly to 12VDC!

The 3 Common Secondary Mirror Designs

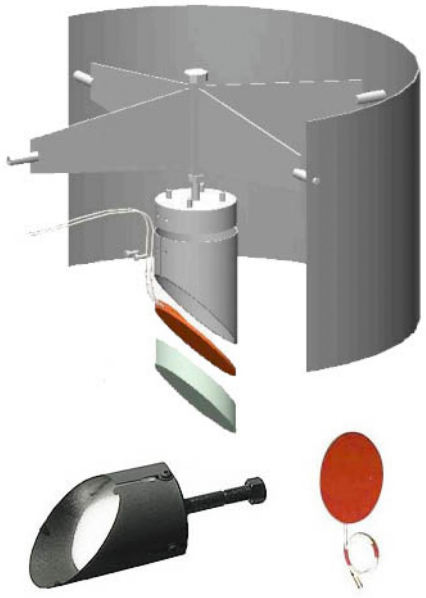
Actually, the mirror itself is not the issue, but rather, how it is held in the light path.

Hollow Cylinder = Elliptical Heater

Typically, this style uses a light aluminum hollow cylinder and the mirror sits at the bottom of the cylinder. It is usually "back-filled" with "wadding".

Heater installation is pretty easy. After you remove the wadding, drop the heater on top of the mirror and put the wadding back in. Then it's just a matter of routing the wire to exit the cylinder.

There are 3 heater sizes to chose from. Simply measure the mirror and chose the largest size that fits. **HEATERS CANNOT BE TRIMMED**. If needed, chose a smaller size.

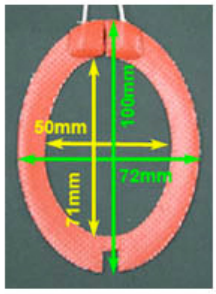


Stalk with Exposed Mirror = “Split” Heater

These mirrors are glued to a central “stalk” and have some of the back-side of the mirror exposed. If enough of the mirror is exposed, our Split Heater is the perfect choice. “Split” comes from the fact that the heater is an elliptical shape that is open at one end and has an oval hole in the center to accommodate the central stalk.

There are 5 sizes to choose from. You will need to takes some measurements and the 3 important details are:

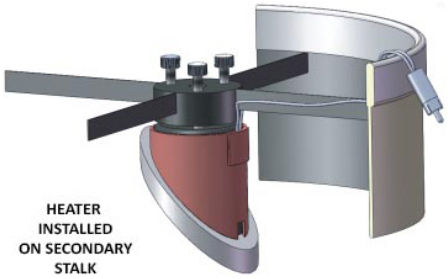
- Width (minor axis)
- Length (major axis)
- Central Stalk dimension.



HEATERS CANNOT BE TRIMMED. If the available heater size is just *slightly* too small, the heaters can flex (within reason) and will conform to a slightly larger central stalk.

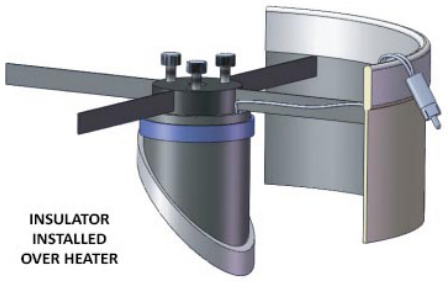
Stalk Without Exposed Mirror = Wrap-Around Heater.

Some telescope models also have a “stalk” with the mirror glued on, but do NOT have the back-side of the mirror exposed. Often, the mirror is surrounded by shroud that covers the back-side of the mirror. Or there are models where very little of the mirror is exposed. In these situations, our Wrap-Around Heater gets the job done.



The Wrap-Around Heater heats-up the central stalk and then some of that heat is transferred to the mirror. The heaters work great but power setting tends to be higher so that enough heat is available to transfer to the mirror.

There are 2 Wrap-Around Heater sizes that are based on the diameter of the central stalk. 1 ¼” AND 2”



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