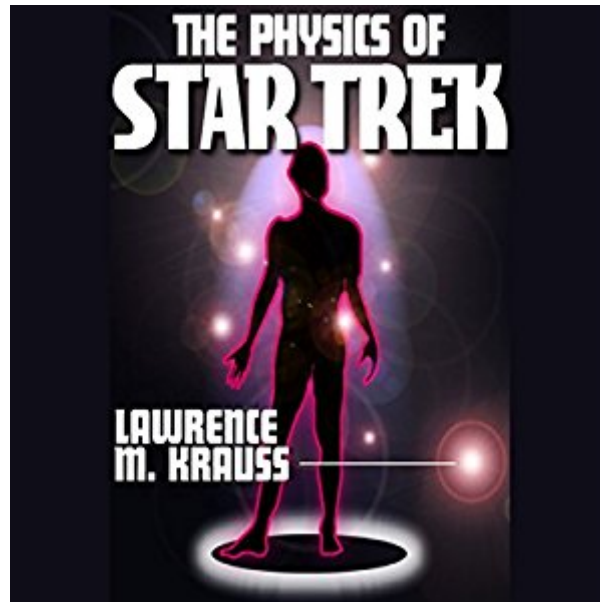




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The Physics Of Star Trek



Synopsis

Today's science fiction is often tomorrow's science fact. The physics that underlies Star Trek is surely worth investigating. To confine our attention to terrestrial matters would be to limit the human spirit. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

So many of us have grown up watching the Enterprise and crews explore planets, fight aliens, and have nail-biting escapes that we never question the science. How would transporters work? Photon torpedoes? How fast is Warp 9? This book examines the physics of space travel and our current state of the art (not even close). But theoretically. Yet as Krauss points out, that does not stop discussion of the latest Trek over coffee the following day, such as this: By the same token, not just light but all massless radiation must travel at the speed of light. This means that the many types of beings of "pure energy" encountered by the Enterprise, and later by the Voyager, would have difficulty existing as shown. In the first place, they wouldn't be able to sit still. Light cannot be slowed down, let alone stopped in empty space.

Krauss, Lawrence M.. The Physics of Star Trek (p. 29). Basic Books. Kindle Edition. So, those Zetarians or Dal'Rok would have correspondingly slowed senses of time in comparison to ours. He gives credit to the writers for those concepts they do right, and mentions where our current theories could support such plot devices. This volume must be read by all scifi buffs. 5 Stars.

Writing a positive review, because I wrote a negative review about another of this author's books. This was an enjoyable read. Any fan of Star Trek would learn a lot about why Star Trek physics are "impossible." Fun, but impossible. Mostly. I like books like this that can explain "how" things need to happen to achieve warp speed or beaming down. The book references all the series. A good read.

As both a Trekkie and a science nerd this book was perfect. It was incredibly interesting and insightful. I learned a lot and would read it again. I would definitely recommend to anyone who loves star trek, science, or just learning.

The Physics of Star Trek, by Professor Lawrence Krauss, is a fun book to read. Who amongst us has not at one time or another wondered while watching Star Trek, either when it first aired, or in watching re-runs, if all of that magic might someday really come to fruition. Tractor Beams, photon beams, dilithium crystals, the holideck, beaming up and down, a physical exam with a cell-phone like device (without having to have to give a blood sample! wow! Professor Krauss, a professor of physics at Arizona State University, is well equipped to assess the possibilities and probabilities of occurrence of all of these dreams. For the most part, he doesn't come out directly and say something is absolutely impossible or practical: he takes us through an estimate of the energy that might be needed, or the amount of computer storage space that might be needed; we're left to somewhat draw our own conclusions. As an example: the ever popular tractor beam. Just how might that work? When a tractor beam is sent out to capture and pull in some object, why doesn't the Enterprise also move? We all know that if we tug on one end of a rope and something else tugs at the other end, most likely we'll both move, unless one end of the rope is firmly anchored to something "immovable". What in space might the Enterprise be "firmly anchored" to? Another example, my favorite: what characteristics of the holideck are possible, and what are impossible? Or is it all possible? Occasionally Professor Krauss wanders off into the tall grass of astrophysics or of quantum theory, and the text tends toward journalese. But that's ok: it showed to me areas in which his passion for the subject showed through. I thoroughly enjoyed this little book: 228 pages. A fun read.

This book was great. not only would it be interesting for a Star Trek fanatic, but anyone even remotely interested in space or physics. The entire time it keeps you intrigued and open-minded about the possibility of space travel, wormholes, and the like. Initially I had no idea how in depth the

Star Trek writers went when creating the series. Each possibility was addressed and backed up by facts and theories of some of the smartest minds our current physics world has ever seen. This book truly gives insight into the physics of Star Trek, as the name portrays. I would recommend this book to anyone and it is interesting the whole way through. After reading The Physics of Star Trek, I was truly curious about Newton, Einstein, and Hawking's work toward time travel and all science fiction related to Star Trek. The examples given by Krauss are very helpful in understanding how all of this was thought out and expertly wrapped up in this book, in a relatable and comical way, as well. It is easy to read also, anyone can just pick up this book and read it the whole way through. The Physics of Star Trek really shows how possible the science is or could be in the potentially near future. This book is a great introduction to physics in general and provides a good foundation for the fundamentals of astrology. Overall it's a fun and exciting read.

The physics parts were a bit too long and challenging for me. This is even though I do occasionally read about the latest developments in physics.

Ever wondered if traveling faster than the light of speed is possible, or if calling out those famous words, "Beam me up Scotty" could actually transport you instantly to a different location up 60 000km away? The Physics of Star Trek, brilliantly written by Lawrence M. Krauss, provides an educated look into the reality of concepts Star Trek writers incorporated into the series. Krauss illustrates that vast impossibilities exist due to the constraints of the laws of physics. Krauss takes many advanced ideas that have been developed in physics and explains them so that average people can grasp their complex principles. This is an interesting read for anyone who wants to better understand how our universe operates. I suggest that any Trekker out there, anyone who gazes into the stars at night and wonders if others are out there, or anyone who just loves to have their brain expanded by the intrigue of the vast universe read this book!!

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