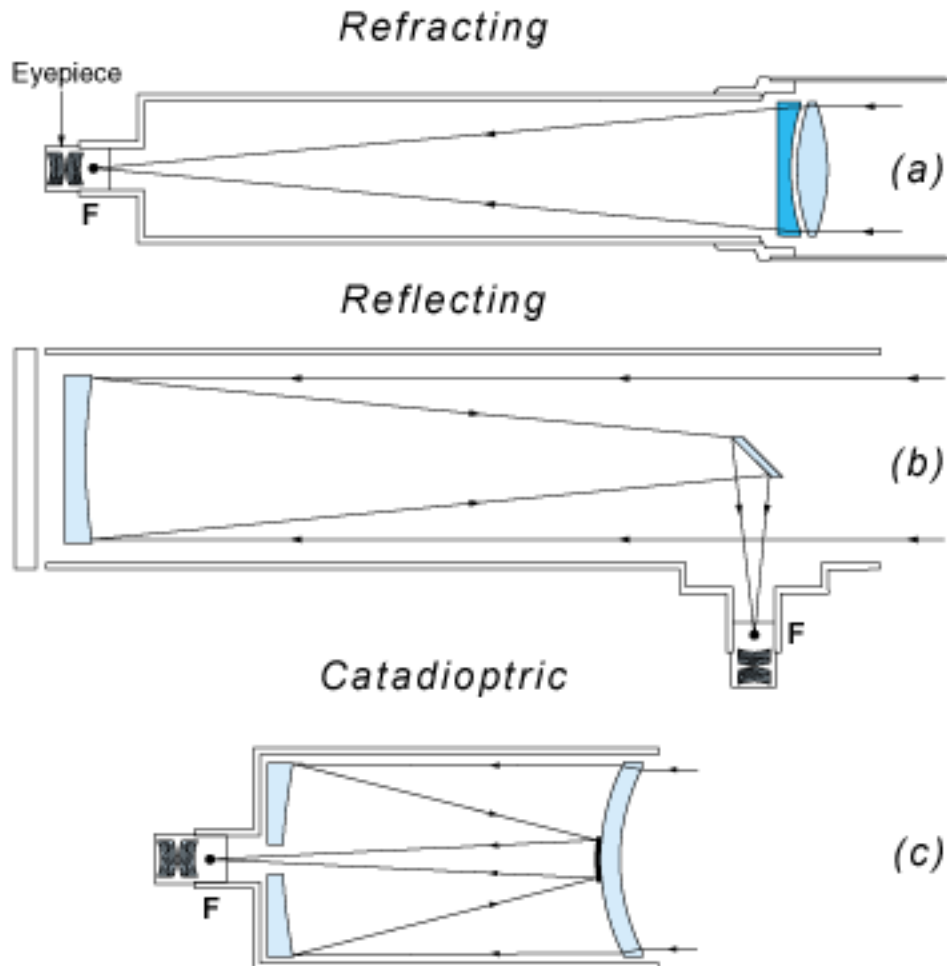
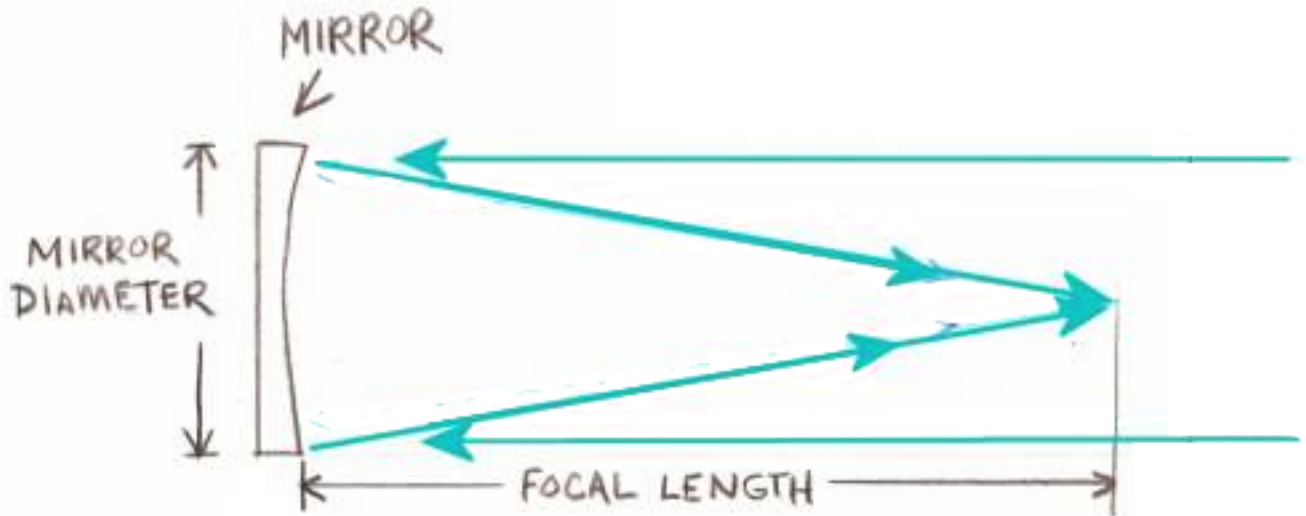


Telescope Types



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What are those numbers



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The **f-ratio** is the **focal length** divided by the **diameter** of the telescope. **Magnification** is the focal length of the telescope divided by the focal length of the eyepiece.

Example

To find the f-ratio of a telescope 10 " in diameter with a 45" focal length: Divide 45 " F.L. by 10" D. to get an f-ratio of 4.5.

Compute Magnification

First, convert focal length to mm: 45" = 1146 mm, then: 1146 mm focal length divided by 35 mm eyepiece equals 33 magnification.

More Information

If you are interested in learning more about telescopes, we recommend:

- SAS member Sorin (aka [Soggy Astronomer](#)) has written an article, [The Agony of Buying Your First Telescope](#) and also presented at our [May 15, 2013 general meeting](#), which includes additional information and links.
- *Sky & Telescope's* excellent article on [equipment basics](#)
- North Ireland's [Choosing A Telescope](#) by Andrew Johnston

End Content