



Baader LaserColli Mark III

VITAL STATS

- **Price** £51
- **Collimator type** Single beam
- **Laser power** 1mW
- **Eyepiece fit** 1.25-inch
- **Screen type** Clear, etched grid, upright
- **Weight** 82g
- **Supplier** David Hinds Ltd
- **Tel** 01525 852696
- **www.celestron.uk.com**

THIS MODEL HAS a cutaway body, which is small and lightweight and therefore presents very little strain on the focuser. We appreciated Baader's attention to detail like the rubber sleeve, which makes it less likely to slip out of gloved fingers and the generous shoulder, which locates the unit squarely in the focuser.

The combined battery housing and switch rotates on and off with a reassuring click – this certainly seems a well-engineered product. Factory-set collimation of the beam was spot on and

although the laser is rated at 1mW, the beam was bright and round at 5m, although a little soft.

The screen arrangement is quite different from the others on test. It consists of a clear window, with a central hole for the beam to pass through on the way out, mounted perpendicular to the central axis. The screen is etched with a grid of finely-ruled crosses and, as the returning beam passes through, these glow brightly to form a pinpoint of red light. This really helped us achieve precision and, although the screen was not mounted at 45° like the others, the large cutaway section allowed us to view it easily from the far end of the telescope.

The Baader collimator also comes with a comprehensive set of instruction sheets and a dust cap, which also offers



some protection against stray light from inadvertent operation of the switch, topping off what is a very well thought-through product.

VERDICT

FOR Build quality; clever screen design
AGAINST Most expensive

ALIGNMENT	98%
BUILD QUALITY	95%
DOCUMENTATION	94%
EASE OF USE	95%
FEATURES	90%
OVERALL	94%