

# Bresser Messier R127L

## VITAL STATS

- ▶ **PRICE** £469.99
- ▶ **APERTURE** 5 inches (127mm)
- ▶ **FOCAL LENGTH** 1,200mm (f/9.4)
- ▶ **FINDER** 8x50mm
- ▶ **EYEPIECES** 25mm, 12.5mm, 10mm
- ▶ **STAR DIAGONAL** 1.25-inch
- ▶ **MOUNT** Mon 2
- ▶ **FOCUSER TRAVEL** 124mm
- ▶ **SUPPLIER** Telescope House
- ▶ **TEL** 01892 550100
- ▶ **WWW** telescopehouse.co.uk

**FOR** It's the total package  
**AGAINST** A long and heavy tube

The Bresser Messier R127L refractor is significantly different to the three other instruments on test and pricier than both the Celestron and Sky-Watcher. But what do you get for the extra outlay?

Firstly, the Bresser refractor has 7mm more aperture and a significantly longer focal length. You also get three eyepieces and a Barlow lens that will set you up for a good range of views. The available magnifications work out at 48x, 96x and 120x, and these double when used with the Barlow. That gives you six different magnifications up to 240x.

The Messier creates the biggest 'wow' factor when it's set up alongside the others. With its wider tube and longer length, the telescope seems to dwarf the other instruments, but that extra focal length means the tube is quite a handful in the dark. The extra length also shifts the balance point nearer to the middle of the tube, which gives it a more traditional refractor appearance when set up on the mount. The rather short

dewcap is a tight fit, so you probably won't pull it off by accident, as can happen with the friction-fit dewcaps on the other three models tested.

The quality of the optics is where the scope really shines above the rest. At night, the Messier R127L showed a textbook refractor diffraction pattern and slightly less false colour than the other three scopes, which all have shorter focal lengths.

### A tight spot

The Messier's tripod is lighter than the Celestron and Sky-Watcher models too, but we needed to be careful not to screw the mount tightener – which pulls the mount down onto the tripod – in too far. For some reason, the handles on the mount tightener are threaded in the same direction as the mount screw. So if you do it up too tight, you end up loosening the dumbbell instead of the mount screw. This means that you need a pair of pliers to get the mount off the tripod, which makes it a pain to pack up.

The Mon 2 equatorial mount is perfectly sturdy. It comes with a handy, flexible, slow-motion cable for the RA axis, which makes manual tracking very easy. We also liked the LED illuminators on both the finder and the polarscope, although we needed to remove the polarscope's illuminator before swinging the refractor about its RA axis, because the mount can hit it.

This Bresser refractor is one of the more expensive on test, but you certainly get much more for your money. It offers the best optics in this group, plus it has that traditional 'big refractor' feel to it that the others don't quite manage. And with Cartes du Ciel planetarium software, planisphere and Moon map, this scope really is the total package for observing the night sky.



## VERDICT

<b>EASE OF USE</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>EYEPIECES</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>FOCUSER</b>	<b>81%</b>
<b>MOUNT</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>OPTICS</b>	<b>93%</b>
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>88%</b>